

Northamptonshire County Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1904,

INCLUDING A

Summary of the Annual Reports of the District

Medical Officers of Health,

BY

CHARLES E. PAGET,

County Medical Officer of Health.

Northampton:—

PRINTED BY JOS. TEBBUTT, KING STREET AND SILVER STREET.

1905.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29918856>

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Prefatory Remarks	5
Local Government Board Inquiries	5
River and Stream Pollution	6
Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cattle and Cowsheds.	8
Supervision of Midwives	10
Reports of Medical Officers of Health	14
Area and Population	15
Births	19
Deaths	21
General Mortality	21
Infantile Mortality	29
Phthisis Mortality	34
Respiratory Diseases Mortality...	38
General Zymotic Mortality	40
Special Zymotic Diseases and Mortality	42
Small Pox (Relation to Vagrancy)	42
Scarlet Fever	45
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	56
Enteric Fever	60
Puerperal Fever	66
Erysipelas	67
Measles	68
Rötheln, or German Measles	70
Chicken Pox	70
Whooping Cough	71
Diarrhœa	72
Influenza	73
Isolation Hospitals and Disinfection	74
Vaccination	80
Water Supply	81
Dwelling-Houses and Overcrowding	90
Excrement and Refuse Disposal	96
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	100
River Pollution	106
Lodging-Houses	107

TABLE OF CONTENTS—CONTINUED.

	PAGE
Slaughter-Houses	107
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	110
Factories and Workshops (Bake-houses)	115
Food Inspection	123
Cemeteries	124
Offensive Trades	124
List of District Medical Officers of Health for 1905 ..	125
Summary of Reports of District Medical Officers of Health ...	126
Mortality and Sickness Statistical Tables I. II. IIa. III. ...	
Factory and Workshop Statistical Tables	

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health FOR THE YEAR 1904.

I herewith have the honour to present the Eighth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health to the County Council of Northamptonshire, including a Summary of the Annual Reports of the Medical Officers of Health for the several Districts within the Administrative County.

In accordance with the plan adopted from the commencement the arrangement of this report is on the same lines as in previous ones, so that their value for purposes of reference may not be lost.

There were 10 **Inquiries held by the Local Government Board** during the year 1904 relative to public health matters in the Administrative County. Half of the number were in connection with schemes for sewage disposal to prevent river pollution, four in regard to matters of water supply, and one in respect of a Joint Hospital District.

Date.	Sanitary District.	Subject.	Amount of Loan.	Result.
Jan. 1st	Daventry Rural .	Water Supply at Badby ..	£1,000	Referred back : new scheme in preparation
Mar. 10th	Wellingborough Rural ..	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal at Isham ..	£1,000	Sanctioned
Apr. 19th	„ Urban	Additional for Water Supply ..	£280	Sanctioned
„ 26th	„ Rural..	Additional for Water Supply at Wilby ..	£250	Part sanctioned
„ 27th	Brixworth Rural ..	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal at Church Brampton ..	£600	Sanctioned
May 26th	Kettering Rural ..	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal at Broughton ..	£2,500	Referred back
July 5th	Desborough Urban ..	Sewerage ..	£400	Sanctioned
„ 29th	Kettering Rural ..	Water Supply at Stanion ..	£800	Referred back
Oct. 6th	Wellingborough Rural..	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal at Mears Ashby ..	£1,150	Referred back
„ „	Crick Rural..	Provisional Order for Rugby Joint Hospital District ..		Awaiting issue

The number of Local Government Board Inquiries for the year 1904 does not compare unfavourably with the numbers of like inquiries during the preceding six years, which were as follows :—7 in 1898, 8 in 1899, 15 in 1900, 12 in 1901, 19 in 1902, and 12 in 1903. I am glad, however, to be able to say that these Inquiries, important as they are in themselves, are becoming less of an indication of sanitary activity than they formerly were, owing to the growing disposition in rural parishes to endeavour to meet public health requirements out of current rate rather than by loan. This is a disposition which I have striven to foster in the rural parts of the county, especially where the population is stationary or slowly declining, and from which it may be hoped that good results will ensue. Two of the best examples of such enterprise are to be found in the Thrapston Rural District, namely, the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme of Islip and the Water Supply of Woodford, both of which appear to be of satisfactory character and workmanship. I hope that these examples will be more frequently copied in the future, for the fear of a parish being burdened with a heavy loan is one of the greatest obstacles to sanitary improvements in many rural districts.

Rather more has been accomplished during the year 1904 in the work of preventing **River and Stream pollution** in the County than was the case in the year preceding ; but some notable instances of serious pollution require to be abated without further delay. In addition to many other inspections, I made special visitations to each of the 29 parishes in the KETTERING RURAL DISTRICT in respect of their means of sewage disposal. In 5 of these parishes there was no pollution of streams by sewage, nor any need of a special scheme for sewage disposal ; in 8, complete, or nearly complete, works had been, or were being, executed out of current rate for the prevention of sewage pollution ; in 2, works of the same nature were being

executed, or prepared for execution, by means of loans ; in 1, the work was being done by the Kettering Urban Council to protect a feeder of their new reservoir ; and work remained to be done in 13 parishes. While in three or four of these defaulting parishes it is apparent that engineering difficulties will have to be overcome to prevent pollution of the streams running through them, I do not think that the circumstances of the remainder are such as to necessitate their incurring burdensome expense to comply with the requirements of the Rivers Pollution Acts. I hope, therefore, that further progress will be made in this district during the current year. A tank has been put in at Badby in the DAVENTRY RURAL DISTRICT to prevent sewage pollution. The effectiveness of this tank remains to be seen, but I think it problematical, and the tank does not deal with the whole of the sewage of the village. At other villages in this District necessary work has not yet been put in hand, notably at Newnham, Flore, and Weedon. It is imperative that works should be put in hand for the last named place without any further delay. At DAVENTRY BOROUGH good work is being done to improve the sewage disposal works there. The Brafield Sewage farm in the HARDINGSTONE RURAL DISTRICT gives satisfaction, and I am glad to find that extended means of treatment of the foul washings from the fellmongering business at Rush Mills have been instituted. The sewage disposal works at Cogenhoe have progressed, and the worst effluent from that village is being dealt with by means of settling-tanks and a filter-bed. The new septic tank at Bugbrooke in the NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT appears to be working satisfactorily, though it will require to be watched to see that it fulfils the purpose for which it was designed, and orders were given for the better distribution of the Sewage over land at Duston. In the OXENDON RURAL DISTRICT it was determined to endeavour to deal with the sewage from the village of Welford, and a scheme was adopted for the purpose by means of settling-tanks. On

inspection, I was satisfied that the scheme was insufficient, but that by doubling the capacity of the tanks and duplicating them there was a fair prospect of a successful scheme. The District Council agreed to adopt the larger suggestion. A scheme for dealing with the Sewage effluents at Woodford in the THRAPSTON RURAL DISTRICT is under consideration, as is also one at Denford. In the WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT the sewage disposal works for Irchester have been completed, and the scheme for Isham has been approved after Inquiry by the Local Government Board. The effluent from Great Doddington was found unsatisfactory during the year, as was also the management of the sewage farm at Earls Barton ; the latter has been greatly improved, and the former is being dealt with. The question of sewage disposal at Wilby has been necessarily temporarily delayed by the refusal of the Local Government Board to sanction a loan for the purpose, until they are satisfied that no further loans will be required to complete the scheme of public water supply at that place. The latter scheme is now well in hand. The position of Mears Ashby with regard to River Pollution remains the same, except that the Parish Council having been entrusted by the District Council with the consideration of schemes for dealing with the sewage outfalls, a further setback has resulted from the recent failure to obtain the sanction of the Local Government Board to a scheme of sewage disposal which had, in *my* opinion, only a shadowy chance of being approved. This matter has now been in hand since the middle of the year 1901, and it appears to me to be quite time that it was ended.

The time seems to me opportune for calling attention once again to the advantages to be derived from the **Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cattle and Cowsheds**. I cannot give a better local illustration of the importance of this subject than by referring to the report of the Veterinary Inspector appointed for this purpose by the

Joint Committee of the Urban and Rural District Councils of Kettering and the Urban District Councils of Desborough and Rothwell, in the section of this report relating to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops (*vide* p. 111). His report for the year 1904 is of striking interest from the point of view of the importance of the skilled examination of the udders of dairy cattle, although the diagnosis of abnormal udders does not by any means define the limitations of the sources of tuberculous milk ; but the further fact of differential diagnosis of abnormal udders into classes, indicating that they are calculated either to render the milk harmful or would probably have no ill effect on the milk, is of even greater importance to the milk-producers in an agricultural county such as this is to so great an extent. It must not be forgotten that dairy cows, as a rule, are kept more in houses than is the case with cattle meant for slaughter, and that their healthiness and freedom from tuberculous disease depends as much, as in the case of man, on their housing being well-ventilated, well-lighted, well-drained, and cleanly. The diagnosis of their diseases ought not to be left in the hands of Sanitary Inspectors whose visits can only be occasional, especially if they combine the duties of District Surveyor with those of Inspector of Nuisances, and, in the words of the Royal Commissioners on 'Tuberculosis' "unfortunately, tuberculosis of the udder can "rarely be differentiated from other forms of udder disease "by the ordinary stock owner or dairyman."

In these circumstances, I would urge that efforts should be made to obtain a more generally systematic inspection of the cows in dairies and cowsheds throughout the county. It may eventually come to be considered best that such systematised procedure should lie with the County Council, and no other course would appear to be possible if no further action is taken in this matter, than as at present, by the Local District Councils ; but it is undoubtedly possible for the best results to be achieved by the combination of local authorities for the

purpose, on the plan of the Kettering and neighbouring Districts, and I earnestly trust that early steps may be taken to ensure them.

I do not think that in the present state of public opinion, which has steadily grown during recent years in the desire to obtain an uncontaminated milk supply, whether in town or country, the case is in any way overstated as to the importance attaching to the Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cattle and Cowsheds ; and it is not unlikely that a time will come when it can no longer be evaded, in consequence—as much for the sake of the stock owner as in the interest of the public—of a compulsory notification of all udder diseases to the local authority. The purpose of systematised inspection would rightly be to lessen the risks of the development of disease in dairy cattle, not merely to diagnose the disease when it occurs ; but even now, in the absence of compulsory notification, it seems to me to be much within the duties of a local authority to encourage the voluntary notification by stock owners and to satisfy itself as to the nature of the malady.

Very great progress was made during the year in preparing for the satisfactory **Supervision of Midwives** in the county. On and after April 1st, 1905, no woman may take or use the name or title of “Midwife” who has not been certified as such under the Midwives Act, 1902. I, therefore, made it my endeavour to ensure that every woman in this county who had been in the habit of acting as a Midwife should, at least, not be taken unawares by the operations of the Act, or be able later to plead ignorance of its provisions. The wisdom of this course was shown in many instances, for even some trained District Nurses seemed to be unaware that, if they practised also occasionally as Midwives, they had need to be certified under the Act. It will be readily understood, therefore, that in the case of the ordinary midwives, whose practice had hitherto been based on traditional rather

than on scientific training, the complicated provisions of the Act and the Rules of the Central Midwives Board framed thereon, would not be readily grasped or appreciated without some pains being taken to make the same plain to them.

The County Council, by resolution on 14th January, 1904, decided that I should be assisted, as Executive Officer of the Local Supervising Authority under the Act, by an Inspector of Midwives, whose qualifications should be those of a fully-trained nurse, that is, certified as such after three years training in the same hospital, and a Certified Midwife, or with qualifications for her immediate enrollment by the Central Midwives Board. From among a large number of candidates, Miss E. Kingham was selected. Her appointment was, I believe, the first of the kind in the country, but a good many similar appointments have since been made in other counties. I am fully satisfied with the results of her work, which has been on the lines of the following instructions :—

1. To inspect the case-book of each midwife to see if it is properly entered up.
2. To inspect bag of appliances of midwife as to—
 - (a) Antiseptic washes,
 - (b) Antiseptic lubricants, and
 - (c) Cleanliness or otherwise of instruments.
3. To report as to personal cleanliness of midwife.
4. To report as to cleanliness and sanitary condition of midwife's place of residence.
5. To see that midwife has suitable washable dresses for use only in her practice.
6. To exercise an educational influence on such of the midwives as are in need of improvement.

7. To carry out such routine correspondence in connection with the general supervision of midwives as the county medical officer of health may direct.
8. To report on any case of malpractice, negligence, or misconduct on the part of any midwife as the county medical officer of health may direct or she herself may become aware of.

The supervision of midwives, as I have already pointed out in previous reports, cannot be satisfactorily performed by perfunctory visits ; moreover, however much the practice of midwives requires watching in the interests of their patients, their own supervision ought to have the effect of being helpful to themselves, instead of obstructive, especially in the poor districts of towns and the more rural parts of counties. A fully-trained nurse and midwife—particularly one who, like Miss Kingham, has had good experience in district nursing and district midwifery—is probably the best fitted and most acceptable person for the general performance of such duties, provided she has skilled medical opinion to refer to for advice and special visitations.

In my last Annual Report, I described the means which were taken to ascertain the number of women in the county who were liable to be affected by the Act. The number then known was 378 ; it was subsequently increased to 403 through personal inquiries by the Inspector. Since her appointment she has interviewed each of these women, and visited many of them several times. The result has been a very considerable weeding-out of inefficient. Above one half decided to relinquish their practice as midwives on account of old age, impaired health, and illiterateness ; others decided not to incur the responsibilities of certified midwives, though not suffering from such disabilities. By March 31st, 1905, there were 136 women certified as midwives, or who had applied to the Central Midwives Board to be so certified.

It must, however, be clearly understood that this reduction in the number of midwives in the county does not necessarily mean that a serious want of such women has been created or is likely to entail immediate hardship on those who are accustomed to seek their services. As a matter of fact the areas of the county where a demand may possibly be looked for are very few. The practice of many of the retired women was very small and uncertain, and not a few of these women were glad of an excuse for retirement. The distribution of those who remain and are certified as midwives is very fair, and there is no doubt that the vast majority are much better suited for practising than those who have given up.

Of the total number of certified midwives in the county, 9 are District Nurses, maintained by some one or other of different Nursing Associations which have been formed, and it is clear, therefore, that the general supervision of all the certified midwives should be quite distinct from any that could be given by any Institution over which the Local Supervising Authority has no control. It is open to any woman hereafter to undergo training and become a certified midwife by examination, and to settle wherever she chooses, and to practise, without obtaining leave from anyone, provided that she notifies her intention to practise to the Local Supervising Authority, and the supervision under which she then would come should be clear of any local consideration. It is too early yet to say whether the future demand for midwives, other than District Nurses supplied by Nursing Associations, will be met without assistance in purely rural localities, but I feel pretty sure that independent midwives will always be found in sufficient numbers in most of the urban districts. With the amount of preparation which has gone on during the past year, it seems to me that the work of supervision in the future should proceed smoothly and satisfactorily.

REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

There was no difference in regard to the number of reports which were printed for the year 1904 as compared with 1903. The convenience and utility of having the reports printed have been repeatedly pointed out by me, and that they should be so is strongly recommended by the Local Government Board; but five of the local District Councils have not seen fit to take these views in the matter. The reports, in many instances, have given fuller details than has usually been the case in relation to matters of special interest, both in regard to disease prevalence and to methods of administration. It will also be noticed that the reports have been sent in very fairly up to date, though not quite so many were received during the month of January as was the case for the reports of the year 1903.

The following table shows the dates on, and the form in, which the respective Annual Reports were received by me :—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	FORM.
Daventry Rural	... January 16th, 1905 ...	Typed.
Hardingstone Rural	... „ 19th „ ...	Printed.
Brackley Borough	... „ 20th „ ...	Typed.
Northampton Rural	... „ 24th „ ...	Printed.
Finedon Urban	... February 1st „ ...	„
Kettering Urban	... „ „ „ ...	„
Thrapston Rural	... „ 4th „ ...	„
Brackley Rural	... „ 8th „ ...	Auto-typed.
Kettering Rural	... „ „ „ ...	Printed.
Oxendon Rural	... „ 9th „ ...	„
Irthlingborough Urban	... „ 11th „ ...	„
Middleton Cheney Rural...	... „ „ „ ...	Typed.
Raunds Urban	... „ 14th „ ...	Printed.
Potterspury Rural	... „ „ „ ...	„
Oundle Rural	... „ 17th „ ...	„
Higham Ferrers Borough „ 21st „ ...	„

NAME OF DISTRICT.	DATE OF RECEIPT.				FORM.
Daventry Borough	...February 22nd, 1905 ...				Printed.
Rushden Urban	...	„	„	„	„
Wellingborough Urban	...	„	„	„	Typed : Printed later.
Towcester Rural	...	„	„	„	Printed.
Wellingborough Rural	...	„	„	„	„
Easton-on-the-Hill Rural	...	March	1st	„	MS.
Desborough Urban	...	„	8th	„	Printed.
Rothwell Urban	...	„	10th	„	„
Brixworth Rural	...	„	„	„	MS., Printed later.
Gretton Rural	...	„	17th	„	Printed.
Oundle Urban	...	„	22nd	„	„
Crick Rural	...	„	25th	„	„

AREA AND POPULATION.

Although there have been no alterations in the boundaries of any of the Districts in the Administrative County during the year 1904, so far as I know, it will probably be found useful for reference purposes that the particulars as to areas should be inserted here. There are, therefore, as stated in my last Annual Report, twenty-eight Districts, of which 12 are Urban and 16 are Rural, in the County. The Urban Districts have a total area of 40,032 acres, and the Rural Districts have 541,647 acres, making together a total of **581,679** acres for the Administrative County.

AREA IN ACRES OF URBAN DISTRICTS.

<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>	<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>
Borough of Brackley	3,489	Kettering	... 2,814
„ „ Daventry	3,633	Oundle	... 2,228
„ „ Higham		Raunds	... 4,460
„ „ Ferrers	1,945	Rothwell	... 3,638
Desborough	... 2,400	Rushden	... 3,777
Finedon	... 3,661	Wellingborough	... 4,265
Irthlingborough	... 3,722		

AREA IN ACRES OF RURAL DISTRICTS.

<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>	<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>
Brackley ...	42,440	Middleton Cheney	13,888
Brixworth ...	63,647	Northampton ...	16,228
Crick ...	18,547	Oundle ...	58,677
Daventry ...	60,877	Oxendon ...	34,491
Easton-on-the-Hill	6,341	Potterspury ...	19,914
Gretton ...	12,310	Thrapston ...	36,836
Hardingstone ...	32,542	Towcester ...	42,457
Kettering ...	49,337	Wellingborough ...	33,115

POPULATION.—The total estimated population as given for the year 1903, was 96,205 in the combined Urban Districts, 116,405 in the combined Rural Districts, and 212,610 for the whole Administrative County.

The estimates of population by the several District Medical Officers of Health for the year 1904, give the following results :—Urban Districts, an increase of 908 ; Rural Districts, an increase of 356 ; Administrative County, a total increase of 1,264. The total estimated population for the year 1904, therefore, amounts to 97,113 in the combined Urban Districts, 116,761 in the combined Rural Districts, and **213,874** for the whole Administrative County.

I think that these estimates are very fairly reliable, for the following reasons which are given in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ I have based my calculations on the census of 1901, for although building has steadily gone on since then, I consider from the number of empty houses in the town, due to the depression in trade, that the population, for all practical purposes, remains the same.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“The population at the census of 1901 was 3,573, and to the middle of 1904 I have estimated it as 3,835.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“There are 846 inhabited and 77 uninhabited houses in the township, and I estimate the population at 4,214, which allows rather under five persons to each house.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“I estimated the population last year at 4,728; since then 7 new houses have been built, but, as there were 20 more empty at the end of the year than last year, the population works out at 4,664, or a reduction of 64.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“It is somewhat difficult to form a correct estimate of the population of Kettering at the present time, for, although new houses have been built and occupied, there are certainly more empty houses than usual. I shall, therefore, put the population at the middle of the past year at the same figure as 1903, viz. : 30,000, feeling sure that I am not very far from the truth.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“The population at the last census was 3,811, the estimated population for 1903 was 4,211, and for 1904 it stands at 4,376, showing an increase during the year of 165, calculated according to the general rule, that is, at the rate of 5 persons to each new house.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“The Rushden Urban District contains an estimated population of 13,713 as against 13,337 of last year. The number of inhabited houses is 2,744 and the number of new built houses during the year is 57.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“As regards the population, there can be no marked increase until trade is better. . . . The number of inhabited houses in 1904 was

“4,483, giving a population of about 20,180 estimating 4·5
 “persons per house. In 1903 the number of houses was
 “4,416, and the population estimated at 19,872, being an
 “increase in 1904 of about 308.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“I do not think there is any
 “material change in the population of the District during
 “the year.”

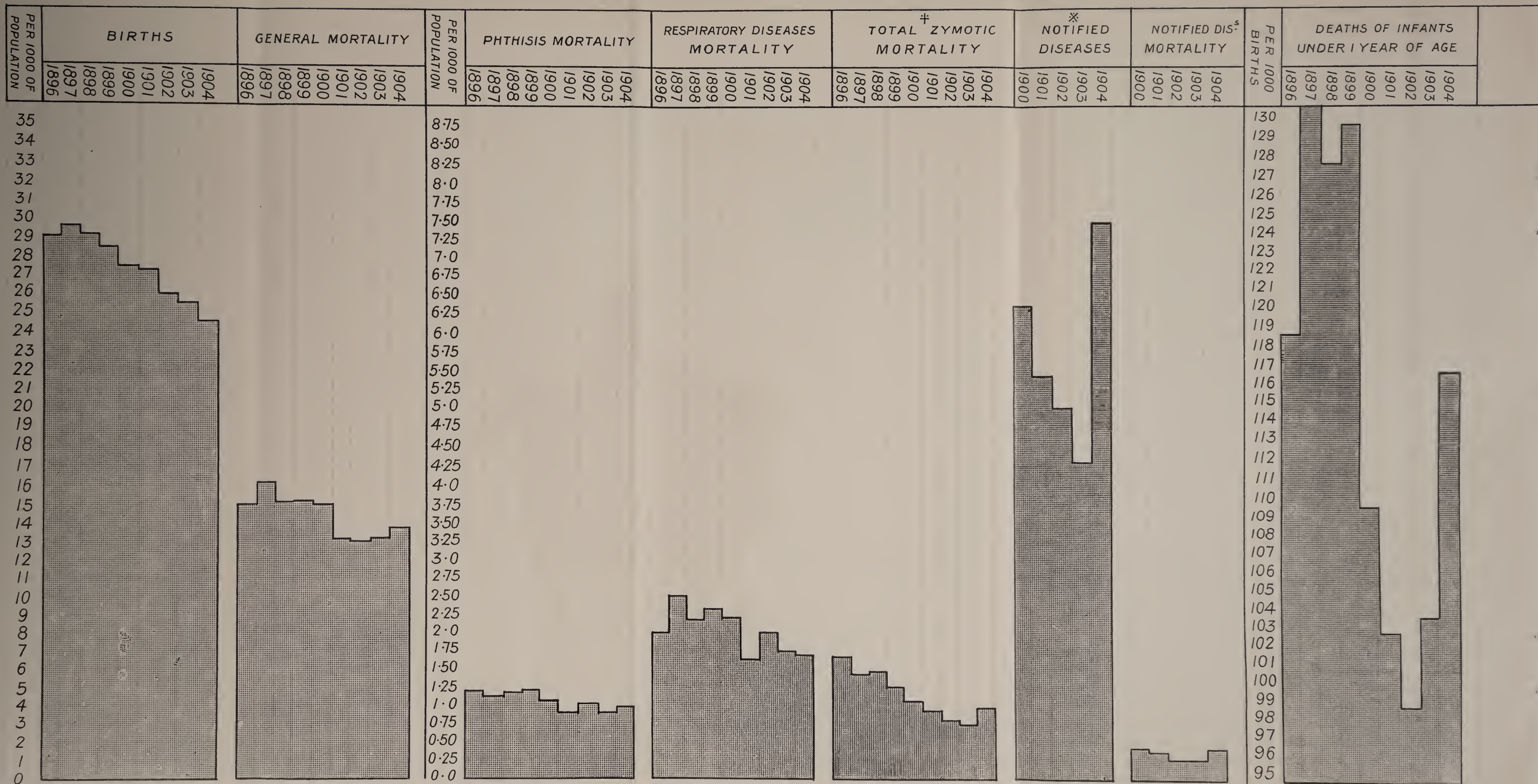
HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“In estimating the population
 “of the district for the year, I have assumed it to be
 “stationary, for though seven cottages have been built at
 “Hardingstone during the year, very little building has been
 “carried on in other parts, and of late years several cottages
 “have been closed in Hardingstone for sanitary reasons.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“It is somewhat difficult to give
 “an absolutely correct return of the population of the dis-
 “trict, but one or two of the villages have certainly slightly
 “increased, while there has not been, to my knowledge, any
 “serious diminution in others. I, therefore, place the popu-
 “lation of the district in the middle of the year at 12,500 ;
 “the slight increase has been in the villages of Broughton,
 “Burton, and Geddington, while a row of a dozen houses, all
 “of which are pretty fully occupied, has been erected in the
 “parish of Newton in connection with the Ironstone Work-
 “ings on the Broughton Estate.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“The District is a purely
 “agricultural one, with a probably decreasing population.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“I have assumed that the
 “population of the District is stationary. Several new
 “cottages and one large house have been built at Duston, but
 “this increase is only about sufficient to make up for the
 “deficiency shown by the last Census Returns, and one large
 “house at Duston is still unoccupied. Some building land is

CHART SHEWING RATES OF BIRTHS AND CERTAIN MORTALITIES, &c.



† INCLUSIVE OF DEATHS FROM DISEASES NOT NOTIFIABLE.

* THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ONLY BECAME COMPULSORY IN ALL DISTRICTS ON JANUARY 1st, 1900.

“ being prepared at Weston Favell, and shortly we may expect
“ building in that neighbourhood.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ It is estimated that the popula-
“ tion of the district has decreased from 11,588 in 1894 to
“ 10,389 in 1904, being at the rate of 109 per annum.”

BIRTHS.

In my Annual Report for 1903, I pointed out that there had been a continuous fall in the birth-rate of the County since the year 1897. I regret to have to record that the continuance of that fall is still unbroken. This record is, however, not peculiar to this County ; it holds good, or practically so, for the whole of England and Wales, and even for the large Towns of England and Wales, though not to quite the same extent. The fact of the decline of the birth-rate of this country is at present engaging a good deal of attention. If the decline in the birth-rate were compensated for by a proportionate decrease in infantile mortality, there would be no apparent drain upon the vital resources of the nation ; but when we find, as is the case, that the falling birth-rate is associated with a stationary, or nearly so, loss of infant life, there is a loss in vital income to the nation, and this has even been estimated to amount to about 15 per cent. This fact can hardly be regarded with indifference. There are doubtless many social factors concerned in the production of this state of things ; but it is manifest that, whatever they may be which are accountable for the lowered birth-rate, every endeavour should be made to secure at least a proportional reduction in the mortality of infants.

During the year 1904, there were 5,265 births, against 5,430 in the year 1903, registered in the Administrative County ; of these, 2,522 were in the Combined Urban Districts, and 2,743 in the Combined Rural Districts.

The average birth-rate of the whole Administrative County per 1,000 of population, and of the Combined Urban and Rural Districts respectively, for the years 1896—1904, is shewn in the following table, together with, for purposes of comparison, the corresponding rates for England and Wales, and for the 76 large towns in England and Wales, taken from the Registrar-Generals' returns :—

Areas.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Adminis- trative County ...	29·08	22·62 1	29·14	28·54	27·33	27·15	25·96	25·53	24·61
Urban Districts...	33·12	33·73	33·0	32·15	30·62	30·38	27·88	26·94	25·96
Rural Districts..	26·75	27·18	26·61	26·10	25·04	24·08	24·43	24·38	23·49
England & Wales ...	29·7	29·6	29·4	29·2	28·9	28·5	28·6	28·4	27·9
*Large Towns in England & Wales	30·7	30·7	30·3	30·2	29·4	29·2	30·0	29·6	29·1

* It is to be noted that the group of large towns numbers 76 from the year 1902 ; it consisted of 33 towns in preceding years.

The birth-rate varied in the Urban Districts from 15·3 per 1,000 of the population in the Oundle District to 29·3 per 1,000 in the Irthlingborough District, while the variation in the Rural Districts was between 18·8 per 1,000 in the Oxendon District, to 38·9 per 1,000 in the Middleton Cheney District. The birth-rate for the Oundle Urban District is again the lowest of any District in the County ; for 1903 it was the lowest of the Urban Districts only, but for the previous six years it was the lowest, as for 1904, of any District in the County.

Arranged in the order of their birth-rates the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Irthlingborough ...	29·3	Rothwell ...	24·8
Rushden ...	28·2	Higham Ferrers Borough ...	24·0
Kettering ...	27·9	Wellingborough ...	23·8
Desborough ...	27·6	Brackley Borough ..	21·4
Finedon ...	26·8	Daventry Borough .	19·8
Raunds ...	24·9	Oundle ...	15·3

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their birth-rates is as follows —

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Middleton Cheney..	28·9	Brixworth ...	22·9
Northampton ...	26·9	Oundle ...	22·6
Potterspury ...	25·9	Gretton ...	22·2
Daventry ...	25·2	Brackley ...	21·8
Kettering ...	24·7	Towcester ...	21·7
Wellingborough ...	24·7	Easton-on-the-Hill	21·2
Thrapston ...	24·6	Hardingstone ...	20·6
Crick ...	23·2	Oxendon ...	18·8

DEATHS.

General Mortality.—There was a higher rate of general mortality for the County during the year 1904 than for the three immediately preceding years, as may be seen in the accompanying Chart; but the rate for 1904 was distinctly lower than those for the years 1896 to 1900 inclusive, and at least 1·5 per 1,000 of population lower than the mean rate for those years. The rate of general mortality for 1904 may, therefore, be regarded as a not unfavourable one, especially when the facts are taken into consideration that (i) the rate is less than 14·0 per 1,000 of the population, (ii) there was an exceptional amount of zymotic sickness during the year, and

(iii) there was a large increase in the rate of infantile mortality over the four immediately preceding years. I have repeatedly pointed out that the most sure way of permanently reducing the rate of general mortality is to secure greater care of infant life, and it requires merely a cursory glance at the accompanying Chart to realise how great is the influence of the deaths of infants under one year of age, as compared with the mortality in other age-classes, on the rise or fall of the general mortality rate. It is true that, in a comparison of the average general mortality rate of the County for the five years 1896—1900 with the succeeding four years 1901—1904, there is a fall from 15·2 per 1,000 of population to 13·2 per 1,000, but in my opinion, the rate may be made even more favourable as the result of strenuous efforts in most of the Districts of the County—by leaflets, lectures, and personal visitation—to inculcate in those responsible a higher appreciation of their duties in regard to the care of infant life.

To this end, I welcome every prospect of an increase in the number of Districts formed for the maintenance of Nurses under the auspices of the Northamptonshire District Nursing Association, as in that way infantile ailments may more widely receive the care which may make the difference between recovery and death. But much may also be done through the educational influence of house-to-house visitations, by female health visitors, in directing the efforts of householders as to the care of their dwellings and immediate surroundings, and the precautions necessary to preserve their food from detrimental changes.

I trust that these matters will receive greater consideration, and lead to more practical results, in the near future than they have in the past.

The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County during the year 1904 was 2,964, as against 2,838 in 1903, and 2,785 in 1902 : of these 1,219 occurred in

the Combined Urban Districts, and 1,745 in the Combined Rural Districts. Included, however, in the total number of deaths for the Combined Rural Districts are the deaths which were recorded in the Berry Wood Asylum, situated in the Northampton Rural District, and also those in the Infectious Diseases Hospital of the County Borough of Northampton, which is situated in the Brixworth Rural District; of the former, 25, and, of the latter, 8, were of persons not belonging to the Administrative County. These deaths have, therefore, been excluded in working out the nett mortality-rate for the Administrative County in the subjoined table. The deaths of persons belonging to the Administrative County, which occurred in the Berry Wood Asylum, have, as in previous years, been allocated to the several Districts to which they belong, and this year a new Table (IIA.) is given showing the number, age, and cause of death, and the extent of such allocation. I hope to make this Table an annual one; but I must unreservedly acknowledge that its production is entirely dependent on the kindness of the Medical Superintendent of the Asylum, who has, in the present instance, put himself to immense pains and trouble to accede to my request in the matter. I desire thus to record my very hearty appreciation of his labours, and my gratitude for his kindly help.

The following table shows the general mortality rates for the Administrative County, England and Wales, and the large towns, during the years 1896—1904 :—

Districts.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Adminis- trative County ...	15·02	16·13	15·11	15·13	14·96	13·05	12·96	13·09	13·7
England & Wales ...	17·1	17·4	17·5	18·3	18·3	16·9	16·3	15·4	16·2
Large Towns in England & Wales...	18·9	19·0	19·0	20·2	19·5	18·6	17·4	16·3	17·2

The following are among the principal remarks on the subject of the general mortality in the several Districts to be found in the Annual Reports of their respective Medical Officers of Health :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“ During the year 43 deaths occurred in the district ; the nett death-rate (*i.e.* excluding twelve deaths of non-residents in the Workhouse) was 12·5 per 1,000. The average rate for the past ten years was 13 per 1,000.”

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“ Of the 19 deaths at the Workhouse 5 belonged to the Urban District, so that the number of deaths belonging to Daventry is raised to 55, upon which therefore the death-rate is reckoned. Death-rate :—14·55 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15·87 for 1903 ; 14·02 for 1902 ; and 14·28 for 1901.” The allocation of the deaths of residents of the Borough in the Berry Wood Asylum amounts to 5 more, and thus raises the rate from 14·55 per 1,000 to 15·8 per 1,000. For the like reason, and in respect of Poor-Law Institutions, the discrepancy between the nett death-rates in some of the following extracts and those given in Table I of this report are explainable.

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ The number of deaths registered was 22 ; this gives a death-rate of 8·6 per 1,000 of the population. . . The death-rate is the lowest I have had to record during the twelve years I have acted as your Medical Officer of Health. It is interesting to note that of the 22 deaths 12 were over 60, and 8 under 2 years, so that last year only two persons died in the town between the ages of 2 and 60.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The registered deaths were 48, namely 26 males and 22 females, giving a death-rate of 12·51 per 1,000 living. . . The net average number of deaths and the average death-rate for years 1894—1903 were

“ 47 and 13·7 respectively. The death-rate for 1903 was
 “ 14·96. A comparison of all these figures demonstrates the
 “ favourable character of the death-rate of 12·51 for 1904,
 “ and is consequently a matter for congratulation.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“ The number of deaths registered
 “ during the year was 56, giving a rate of 13·2 per 1,000 per
 “ annum. This rate compares favourably with those of the
 “ preceding nine years. The total number of deaths included
 “ 21 under one year of age, giving an infantile death-rate of
 “ 185·8 per 1,000 births registered. This is the highest rate I
 “ have yet recorded.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ 56 deaths were registered
 “ during the year, giving a rate of 12 per 1,000 of the popu-
 “ lation, compared with 63 last year and a rate of 13·2, but as
 “ 5 of the deaths were of persons not belonging to the parish
 “ —4 from suicide and 1 found drowned—the total number
 “ is thus reduced to 51, or a rate of 10·9. Considering the
 “ vast amount of epidemic diseases we have had during the
 “ year—German Measles in the Spring, and Scarlet Fever at
 “ the end of the year—the reduction in the death-rate must
 “ be considered very satisfactory.”

OUNCLE URBAN.—“ There have been 41 deaths, a de-
 “ crease in the number of 1903 of 9. Ten of these were those
 “ of non-residents, bringing the total of deaths for this
 “ district down to 31, giving an average of 12·4 per 1,000.

RAUNDS URBAN.—“ The number of Deaths from all
 “ causes and at all ages was 47, or only two more than that of
 “ the previous year, of these 23 were males and 24 females.
 “ The death-rate, therefore, for the year stands at 10·7, exactly
 “ the same as last year, that of the two previous years being
 “ 11·9 and 12·3 respectively.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“ The death-rate this year is only
 “ 10·93, which is one of the lowest we have ever had.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“The registered deaths have been
“ 159, giving a death-rate of 11·59 per 1,000.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The total number of
“ deaths in the District was 250, giving a rate of 12·3 ; but of
“ these, 25 deaths occurred in non-residents, giving a death-
“ rate of residents only of 11·4.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—“The death-rate during this period
“ has been 14·3 per 1,000 of the population, the number of
“ deaths registered having been 103.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“The total deaths registered in
“ the District in 1904 were 191, of which 8 occurred in
“ the Northampton Borough Isolation Hospital and were
“ non-residents, therefore the nett deaths in the District
“ were 183, as against 176 for 1903, shewing an increase of 7,
“ and a death-rate of 16·15 per 1,000 for the District.”

CRICK RURAL.—“The deaths numbered 39, but adding
“ the deaths of 3 persons belonging to the district which
“ occurred in the Union Workhouse, Rugby, they amounted
“ to 42, and consisted of 18 males and 24 females, representing
“ a total annual death-rate of 18·4 per 1,000. This death-rate
“ is only slightly above the average of the past ten years, and
“ is due to the comparatively large number of deaths which
“ occurred among old people. . . There were no deaths
“ among children over one and under 15 years of age, but
“ 23, or more than one-half the total number, occurred among
“ persons aged sixty-five and upwards.”

“ DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The number of deaths regis-
“ tered at all ages was 160—males 82, females 78—; this
“ gives a death-rate of only 11·9 per 1,000, which is the
“ lowest rate we have had for many years, and is most satis-
“ factory.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“The number of deaths registered as occurring in and belonging to the District was 23, equal to a death-rate of 15·17 per 1,000 of the estimated population for 1904.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The total number of deaths at all ages was 118, whilst in each of the two previous years there were only 94 deaths, the average for the ten years being 113. This gives a death-rate of 15 per 1,000 for 1904, against an average of 13·7 for the previous ten years. There were 16 deaths in persons over 80 years of age, and one death was certified as 98.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“The total number of deaths for the whole district was 169, giving a ratio per 1,000 of 26·5. Of these deaths, however, 90 occurred in Berry Wood Asylum, so that, by deducting these, we get 79 deaths of persons resident in the district, with a ratio of 14·7 deaths per 1,000. This is a trifle higher than the average for the last ten years, which is 79 with a ratio of 14·2 per 1,000, and considerably higher than in the two previous years, when the death-rate was exceedingly low, viz., 12 and 12·5 per 1,000. There was no marked increase of deaths in any one district, in each one the deaths were a trifle over the average for the previous ten years. The deaths in Berry Wood Asylum are less than they have been since 1897.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“There were 78 deaths in persons properly belonging to the District, of which 10 occurred in Union Workhouse, Market Harborough, of these 39 were males and 39 females. . . . The death-rate is 16·18, against 13·08 in 1903 and an average of 13·37, but corrected for the 10 deaths in the Workhouse is 18·56.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“In the Towcester Sub-District there occurred 107 deaths, and of these 17 were children

“ under 1 year of age. In the Abthorpe Sub-District there
“ were 58 deaths, 9 being children under 1 year of age. The
“ number of Births and Deaths in the Abthorpe Sub-District
“ were precisely the same as in 1903. In the combined dis-
“ trict there were 165 deaths at all ages and of these 26 were
“ infants under 1 year of age. The resulting general death-
“ rate is 15·88 per 1,000, which is higher than any year since
“ 1897.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“ The number of deaths
“ registered have been 174 for the whole district. . . This
“ gives a death-rate of 12·83 for the whole district as against
“ 11·74 last year.”

The nett death-rate varied in the Urban Districts from 9·4 per 1,000 of the population in Higham Ferrers Borough, to 15·8 per 1,000 of the population in Daventry Borough. In the Rural Districts the variation in the nett death-rate was from 12·0 per 1,000 of the population in the Daventry District, to 18·8 per 1,000 of the population in the Crick and Oxendon Districts.

Arranged in the order of their nett death-rates the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Higham Ferrers		Irthlingborough ...	12·2
Borough ...	9·4	Brackley Borough..	12·5
Rothwell ...	11·1	Desborough ...	12·5
Wellingborough ...	11·5	Finedon ...	13·2
Kettering ...	11·6	Oundle ...	13·3
Raunds ...	11·6	Daventry Borough .	15·8
Rushden ...	11·8		

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their nett death rates is as follows :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Daventry	... 12·0	Oundle	... 15·8
Wellingborough	... 13·2	Potterspury	... 16·1
Kettering	... 13·7	Towcester	... 16·1
Brackley	... 14·3	Gretton	... 16·3
Thrapston	... 14·7	Middleton Cheney..	16·5
Northampton	... 15·1	Easton-on-the-Hill .	18·4
Hardingstone	... 15·5	Crick	... 18·8
Brixworth	... 15·8	Oxendon	... 18·8

Infantile Mortality.—In previous paragraphs I have already dwelt on the desirability of increased efforts being made to bring about a greater diminution in the mortality of infants throughout the country. It only now remains to indicate the extent to which this has occurred in this County during the year 1904, and the relation that mortality has to the rates of preceding years. A reference to the Mortality Chart will show at once that there was a sharp rise in Infant Mortality during 1904, and an extent of mortality greater than in any year since 1899. This rise is practically coincident with a similar one representing the prevalence of notifiable zymotic diseases, and with that which indicates the rate of mortality from those diseases. The rate of infantile mortality for 1904 was, moreover, higher than the average for the eight preceding years, being as 116 to 114 per 1,000 births. These facts are unsatisfactory, and are unfortunately not wholly accounted for by the apparent association of increased prevalence of infectious diseases. There appear to have been an unusual number of premature births, and a considerable proportion of deaths from wasting diseases. There was happily a diminution of this mortality in the Irthlingborough and Raunds Urban Districts as compared with the year 1903 ; but the rate for Finedon Urban District was again excessively high, and the rates for the Rural Districts were mostly higher than usual and than they ought

to be. The proportionate rate of increase in this mortality for the whole of England and Wales in 1904 is considerably less than that for this County, as compared with the averages for the years 1896—1903.

The average infantile death-rate for the whole Administrative County per 1,000 births, and of the Combined Urban and Rural Districts respectively, for the years 1896—1904, is shewn in the following table, together with, for purposes of comparison, the corresponding rates for England and Wales, and for the large towns in England and Wales, taken from the Registrar-General's Returns :—

Districts.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Adminis- trative County ...	118	130	127	129	109	102	98	103	116
Urban Districts .	131	137	151	143	126	109	116	114	117
Rural Districts...	108	125	107	118	95	96	80	92	115
England & Wales ...	148	156	160	163	154	151	133	132	146
Large Towns in England & Wales...	168	176	178	181	172	168	145	144	160

The following extracts from the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health relate to this subject :—

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ There were four deaths
 “ of children under one year, showing an infantile death-
 “ rate of 65·5 per 1,000 births, which is a low one. It is
 “ satisfactory to notice in reference to this important question
 “ an improvement during the last five years, as there can be
 “ no doubt that, with proper care, the great mortality in
 “ infants that prevails in the urban districts is largely pre-
 “ ventible.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“Below the age of one year
 “there were 10 deaths, which furnish an Infant Mortality of
 “122 deaths to 1,000 births registered. Although the infant
 “rate of mortality is slightly higher than in the previous
 “year, it is still well below the average for the years 1894—
 “1903, viz. 132.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“Only 11 deaths took
 “place under 1 year of age, giving a rate of 80 per 1,000
 “births registered, compared with 23 last year and a rate of
 “132·9. Of the 11 deaths, 3 were due to Premature Birth, 1
 “to Pneumonia, 2 to Tubercular disease, and 5 from other
 “infantile complaints, chiefly congenital. I am very pleased
 “to be able to show such a substantial reduction in the
 “infantile death-rate, as, for the last two years, it has been
 “excessively high for an Urban District.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“The infantile death-rate is very
 “high, 135·1 per 1,000 ; but this return is not of much value
 “in itself, on account of the smallness of the number of
 “births.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“The deaths of children under the
 “age of one year numbered 13, as compared with 14 and 12
 “in the two previous years, and this gives an infantile
 “death-rate of 119·3 per thousand births registered, the rate
 “last year being 128·4. This is an improvement but is still
 “very high, although much under many other places of the
 “same population. Of these 13 deaths eight were aged only
 “3 months or under, the principal causes being *Tabes*
 “*Mesenterica*, *Acute Bronchitis*, and *Convulsions*.

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“The infant mortality has been
 “118·86 per 1,000, of which 10 have been premature, as
 “against 91·58 per 1,000 last year. This, although high, is
 “considerably below that of *large* manufacturing towns.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—“The infant death-rate, calculated
“on the number of births registered, amounted to 140 per
“1,000. This is the highest since 1897.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“The number of deaths regis-
“tered under 1 year was 34, or exactly the same number as
“last year, the death-rate being 125 per 1,000 births registered
“as against 114 for 1903.” It is pointed out that the in-
creased infant mortality was due to Broncho-Pneumonia and
Diarrhœa, and that these deaths mainly occurred in villages
with bad house accommodation, and in dwellings which were
old and dirty.

CRICK RURAL.—“Only 3 deaths occurred among infants
“under one year of age.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The Infant Mortality under one
“year was 88 per 1,000 Births: and, though a little higher
“than the last two years, may still be considered fairly
“satisfactory.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The number of deaths in
“children under one year of age was 24; this is a very high
“mortality, especially when the small number of births is
“taken into consideration. The number has on two occasions
“been as low as 11, and only twice in the last ten years has
“it exceeded 24, whilst the average is 18·7. This number of
“deaths gives a ratio per 1,000 births registered of 148, as
“compared with an average for the ten years of 93.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“The number of deaths in
“children under one year of age was only 13, giving a ratio
“per 1,000 births registered of only 90; this is much less
“than during any of the previous ten years, the average for
“which shows 20 deaths, with a ratio of 128 per 1,000 births
“registered.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“The infant mortality rate is 151·89
 “per 1,000 births registered, as against 53·3 in 1903 and an
 “average of 83·51.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“The ratio of deaths under 1 year
 “of age to the births is 115·04 to 1,000.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“The infant mortality has
 “been 130·95 per 1,000 births for the whole district. . .
 “This is in excess of last year, and is much too high. The
 “number of premature births have been seven.”

The infantile mortality-rate varied in the Urban Districts
 from 65·5 per 1,000 births in the Borough of Higham Ferrers,
 to 185·8 per 1,000 births in the Finedon District. The
 variation in this mortality in the Rural Districts was from
 29·4 per 1,000 births in the Gretton District, to 157·1 per
 1,000 births in the Middleton Cheney District.

Arranged in the order of their infantile mortality-rates
 the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 Births.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 Births.</i>
Higham Ferrers		Kettering	... 119·1
Borough ...	65·5	Raunds	... 119·2
Irthlingborough ...	80·2	Desborough	... 122·6
Rothwell ...	81·3	Wellingborough	... 126·5
Daventry Borough.	93·3	Oundle	... 135·1
Brackley Borough .	94·3	Finedon	... 185·8
Rushden ...	118·8		

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their
 infantile mortality-rates is as follows :—

	<i>Per 1,000 Births.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 Births.</i>
Gretton	... 29·4	Brixworth	... 125·4
Crick	... 56·6	Easton-on-the-Hill.	129·0
Oundle	... 68·9	Wellingborough	... 130·9
Daventry	... 88·4	Brackley	... 140·1
Potterspury	... 88·8	Kettering	... 142·3
Northampton	... 90·2	Hardingstone	... 148·1
Thrapston	... 111·1	Oxendon	... 151·8
Towcester	... 115·0	Middleton Cheney.	157·1

Phthisis Mortality.—It will be seen from the Mortality Chart that there was a rise in this mortality during 1904, as compared with the year 1903 ; but still I am glad to be able to record that the number of deaths from phthisis was satisfactorily below the average for the eight preceding years 1896—1903, being as 204 to 215. It will be seen that there were 22 more deaths from phthisis in 1904 than in 1903, but that the total number is the third lowest for the county during the past nine years. The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County as due to Phthisis during the year 1904 being 204, their distribution was as follows :—106 belonged to the Combined Urban Districts, and 98 to the Combined Rural Districts. The number which occurred in the Berry Wood Asylum of persons belonging to the Administrative County was 5, as against 11 in the year 1903, and these have been duly allocated to the Districts from which they came. Of the total deaths from phthisis, only one, in the Thrapston Rural District, was of a child under five years of age. The death-rate was, therefore, only 0·49 per cent. of the total deaths in respect of children under five years of age, as against 2·74 per cent. in 1903, 3·27 per cent. in 1902, 2·8 per cent. in 1901, 5·02 per cent. in 1900, 5·34 per cent. in 1899, 9·6 per cent. in 1898, 5·85 per cent. in 1897, and 8·15 per cent. in the year 1896. This is a favourable feature in support of the presumption that there is some

increase of care in regard to the health of young children. The Gretton Rural District was the only one in the County which did not show any mortality from phthisis during the year 1904, as against four Districts showing like freedom in the year 1903.

The following table shows the number of deaths from phthisis and the rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole Administrative County for the nine years 1896—1904 :—

Area.	Phthisis.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Adminis- trative County	No. of Deaths	233	222	229	243	219	178	214	182	204
	Rate per 1,000 ...	1·17	1·10	1·13	1·19	1·06	0·85	1·01	0·85	0·95

The following are the more important references to the subject of this mortality in the Reports of the Medical Officers of Health :—

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ There was but one death from phthisis during the year, which gives the low rate of 0·39 per 1,000 of the population.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“ Phthisis was responsible for four deaths, the same number as recorded for 1903, giving a death-rate of 1·04 per 1,000. Of the four deaths, two occurred between the ages of 5 and 15, and the other two between 20 and 30 years of age, and the fact that they are equivalent to one-twelfth or 8 per cent. of the total deaths registered is significant of the dreadful annual toll which consumption exacts from suffering humanity.” The Medical Officer of Health also comments on the advisability of the erection of sanatoria for the treatment of the disease by combined public bodies, and the means at the disposal of sanitary authorities for preventing the causation of phthisis.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ Phthisis or Consumption
 “ of the Lungs caused 5 deaths, giving a rate of 1·07 per 1,000,
 “ compared with 9 deaths, and a rate of 1·8 last year. Other
 “ Tubercular disease caused 4 deaths, 3 from Acute General
 “ Tuberculosis, and one from Tubercular Meningitis. This
 “ gives a total of 9 deaths from Tubercular diseases, and a
 “ rate of 1·9, compared with 12 deaths, and a rate of 2·74 last
 “ year. It is very gratifying to be able to report a reduction
 “ in the number of deaths from this disease. The rate is still
 “ high, but I hope to be able to chronicle a further diminution
 “ in the number next year.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“ In remarking on Phthisis last
 “ year, I said that the sudden fall in the mortality in this
 “ disease was probably only accidental, and regret to say that
 “ the number of deaths recorded during 1904 is much larger
 “ than it has been for several years. The fine Phthisis Wards
 “ erected in the grounds of the Union Infirmary were opened
 “ in the autumn, and have been constantly occupied ever
 “ since. At the present time all the beds on the men’s side
 “ are full. Great improvement has taken place in several of
 “ the cases, but only two cases have at present been discharged
 “ as cured.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“ It will be seen that out of the
 “ 54 deaths recorded only two occurred from Phthisis, a
 “ satisfactorily low percentage.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“ Phthisis has caused 13 deaths, 1
 “ between 5 and 15 years, 6 between 15 and 25 years, and 6
 “ between 25 and 65 years.” Commenting on the outdoor
treatment of the disease, the Medical Officer of Health says,
 “ Many no doubt have derived a considerable amount of
 “ benefit, and a few have been able to follow suitable employ-
 “ ment, “if they can get it,” after a prolonged course of
 “ treatment in these homes, but can treatment be called pre-
 “ vention? The cause of the increase of consumption is the

“desertion of the rural out-of-door occupation of Agricultural
 “pursuits for the crowded factories of towns, together with
 “the restless life of pleasure and excitement of modern
 “times.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“The number of deaths regis-
 “tered due to this disease were 17 as against 8 reported for
 “1903, giving a death-rate of 1·43 per 1,000 as against 0·67
 “for 1903.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“The deaths from Phthisis
 “number exactly the same as last year, and occurred in the
 “following places :—Weldon 1, Geddington 1, Middleton 3,
 “Corby 1, Burton Latimer 1, Cranford 1. The fine Phthisis
 “Wards erected in the grounds of the Workhouse Infirmary
 “were opened in the autumn, and have been constantly
 “occupied ever since ; several patients have been admitted
 “from the District under your control, and one of these cases
 “has been discharged apparently quite restored to health.”

There can be no doubt that the building and opening of the Kettering Union Phthisis Wards is one of the greatest public health events of the year in this County. They are excellently planned, and have been erected at a very moderate cost. I anticipate a decided and good influence from their use in the Kettering Union, and hope hereafter to point to such results as may induce other Boards of Guardians to follow on similar lines.

The Phthisis death-rate varied in the Urban Districts from 0·39 per 1,000 of the population in the Borough of Higham Ferrers, to 2·49 per 1,000 of the population in the Oundle District. In the Rural Districts, the variation in this mortality was from 0·0 per 1,000 of the population in the Gretton District, to 1·72 per 1,000 of the population in the Potterspury District.

Arranged in the order of their Phthisis death-rates the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Higham Ferrers		Daventry Borough.	1·05
Borough	... 0·39	Irthlingborough	... 1·07
Rothwell	... 0·40	Wellingborough	... 1·13
Finedon	... 0·47	Raunds	... 1·14
Brackley Borough..	0·81	Kettering	... 1·30
Rushden	... 0·94	Oundle	... 2·49
Desborough	... 1·04		

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their Phthisis death-rates is as follows :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Gretton	... 0·0	Northampton	... 0·74
Middleton Cheney..	0·41	Kettering	... 0·80
Daventry	... 0·44	Crick	... 0·87
Wellingborough	... 0·59	Hardingstone	... 0·89
Oundle	... 0·62	Towcester	... 0·96
Easton-on-the-Hill.	0·68	Thrapston	... 1·07
Brackley	... 0·69	Brixworth	... 1·43
Oxendon	... 0·71	Potterspury	... 1·72

Respiratory Diseases Mortality.—Reference to the Mortality Chart shows a slight fall in the death-rate for respiratory diseases. This is very satisfactory ; indeed, the deaths during 1904 were fewer, with the single exception of the year 1901, than in any of the years 1896—1903. The rate of mortality, moreover, was 0·38 per 1,000 of population less than the average rate for those years. The total number of deaths from respiratory diseases registered in the Administrative County during the year 1904 was 354 ; of these 135 occurred in the combined Urban Districts and 219 in the combined Rural Districts, after allocating to their

respective districts the deaths of those which, to the number of 4, occurred in the Berry Wood Asylum. Of the total deaths from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy, 152 or 42·93 per cent. were of children under five years of age ; of these, 69, or 45·4 per cent. were in the combined Urban Districts, and 83, or 54·6 per cent. were in the combined Rural Districts.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the respiratory diseases and the rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole Administrative County for the nine years 1896—1904 :—

Area.	Respiratory Diseases.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Administrative County.	No. of Deaths	380	497	432	467	450	337	415	359	354
	Rate per 1,000 ...	1·91	2·48	2·13	2·29	2·18	1·62	1·97	1·68	1·65

The death-rate for Respiratory Diseases varied in the Urban Districts from 0·40 per 1,000 of population in the Borough of Brackley, to 2·05 per 1,000 of population in the Raunds District. In the Rural Districts, the variation in this mortality was from 0·68 per 1,000 of population in the Easton-on-the-Hill District, to 2·85 per 1,000 of population in the Oxendon District.

Arranged in order of their death-rates for Respiratory Diseases the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Brackley Borough..	0·40	Rushden	... 1·09
Higham Ferrers		Irthlingborough	... 1·28
Borough	... 0·78	Wellingborough	... 1·38
Oundle	... 0·83	Desborough	... 1·56
Finedon	... 0·94	Kettering	... 1·76
Rothwell	... 1·01	Raunds	... 2·05
Daventry Borough..	1·05		

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their death-rates for Respiratory Diseases is as follows :—

<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>	
Easton-on-the-Hill .	0·68	Towcester	... 1·82
Hardingstone	... 1·14	Thrapston	... 1·86
Potterspury	... 1·15	Middleton Cheney.	2·07
Daventry	... 1·56	Northampton	... 2·24
Kettering	... 1·68	Wellingborough	... 2·36
Oundle	... 1·72	Brixworth	... 2·53.
Crick	... 1·75	Gretton	... 2·62
Brackley	... 1·81	Oxendon	... 2·85.

General Zymotic Mortality.—Although it is plain from a glance at the Mortality Chart that there was during 1904 a decided rise in the Total Zymotic Mortality-rate over the three preceding years, and that the rate of incidence on the population of notifiable diseases was higher than in any year since notification became compulsory, I am glad to be able to point out that the number of Zymotic deaths for 1904 was 25 less than the average for the eight years 1896—1903, and that these amounted to a rate of 0·94 per 1,000 of population as against an average of 1·15 per 1,000 of population. This mortality is inclusive of deaths from Measles, Whooping-cough, and Diarrhœa, which are not notifiable diseases. To illustrate, therefore, the relation of the mortality from notified diseases to the incidence of those diseases another figure is depicted on the mortality chart. This shows that the rate of mortality from the notified diseases only amounted to 0·38 per 1,000 of the population, as against 0·26 per 1,000 in 1903, 0·27 per 1,000 in 1902, 0·36 per 1,000 in 1901, and 0·41 per 1,000 in 1900. The rate for 1904 is thus 0·05 above the average rate for the four preceding years 1900—1903. The total number of cases notified was 1,598, as against 913 in 1903 which was the lowest number in

the five years 1900—1904, or at the rate of 7·47 per 1,000 of the population ; of these cases, 82 were fatal, or, as has been already said, at the rate of 0·38 per 1,000 of the population.

The total number of deaths registered as having occurred in the Administrative County from the zymotic diseases,—inclusive of Measles, Whooping-cough, and Diarrhœa,—during the year 1904, was 203. Of these, 113 were in the combined Urban Districts and 90 were in the combined Rural Districts. Of the total deaths from the zymotic diseases, 141, or 69·45 per cent., were children under five years of age : of these, 85, or 60·28 per cent., were in the Urban Districts, and 56, or 39·72 per cent., were in the Rural Districts.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the general zymotic diseases and the rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole Administrative County for the nine years 1896—1904.

Area.	General Zymotic Diseases.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Adminis- trative County.	No. of Deaths	331	288	293	255	217	187	162	154	203
	Rate per 1,000 ...	1·66	1·43	1·45	1·25	1·05	0·90	0·77	0·72	0·94

The general zymotic death-rate varied in the Urban Districts from 0·0 per 1,000 of population in the Oundle and Rothwell Districts, to 2·61 per 1,000 of population in the Finedon District. In the Rural Districts the variation in this mortality was from 0·0 per 1,000 of population in the Crick, Easton-on-the-Hill, and Gretton Districts, to 1·49 per 1,000 of the population in the Northampton District.

Arranged in order of their death-rates for Zymotic Diseases, the Urban Districts stand thus :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Oundle	... 0·0	Wellingborough	... 1·04
Rothwell	... 0·0	Irthlingborough	... 1·07
Brackley Borough..	0·40	Desborough	... 1·33
Daventry	... 0·52	Kettering	... 1·36
Raunds	... 0·68	Rushden	... 1·60
Higham Ferrers		Finedon	... 2·61
Borough	... 0·78		

The position of the Rural Districts in respect of their death-rates for Zymotic Diseases is as follows :—

	<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>		<i>Per 1,000 of Population.</i>
Crick	... 0·0	Brackley	... 0·55
Easton-on-the-Hill.	0·0	Kettering	... 0·72
Gretton	... 0·0	Daventry	... 0·89
Thrapston	... 0·09	Hardingstone	... 1·01
Oundle	... 0·31	Wellingborough	... 1·25
Towcester	... 0·38	Brixworth	... 1·26
Middleton Cheney.	0·41	Potterspury	... 1·34
Oxendon	... 0·47	Northampton	... 1·49

SPECIAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES AND MORTALITY.

Small Pox.—Although happily no case of this disease occurred in any District of the County during the year 1904, there was not an absence of threatenings of such an invasion of the disease, and the need for being in a state of preparation to resist one has not yet been removed.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Kettering Urban District says, “No case of Small Pox has been notified during “the past year, but the building set apart for the reception of “cases of this disease has been kept in repair, and always “ready for the reception of cases at a moment’s notice.”

The following extracts are also significant of the risk of the spread of the disease :—

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“ One case of small pox was
 “ recorded in the case of a man residing at Far Cotton in the
 “ Northampton Urban District, who worked at Hunsbury Hill
 “ Furnaces, and consequently several men who lived in our
 “ villages, and had worked with him whilst even the rash
 “ was upon him were exposed to the contagion. The usual
 “ measures were taken—vaccination, isolation, &c.—and no
 “ further spread of the disease happened.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ I am pleased to be again able to
 “ report that no case of Small Pox has occurred in the district,
 “ though some apprehension was caused in June owing to the
 “ fact that a tramp who had stayed in the Casual Ward of the
 “ Workhouse on the 15th and 16th had gone on to Bucking-
 “ ham and there developed Small Pox. The Casual Wards
 “ and Clothing used by ‘Casuals’ were disinfected, and 4 out
 “ of 5 Contacts were vaccinated and kept in quarantine for the
 “ maximum incubation period.”

In November 1904, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and I attended the Conference, in London, on the Spread of Infectious Disease by Vagrants, convened by the London County Council. The Conference was attended by the representatives of a large number of County Councils, County Borough Councils, the City of London, Metropolitan Borough Councils, and the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The resolutions adopted by the Conference were of a comprehensive character, and, in submitting them to the County Council, we appended the following observations :—

“ We think that more extended control of the vagrant
 “ in this country is needed. In our opinion, the habitual
 “ tramps ought to be treated upon different lines from the
 “ unemployed workmen who, in times of industrial de-

“pression, are travelling by road from town to town in
 “*bonâ-fide* search of employment.

“Such workmen, who form a very small proportion of
 “the large army of habitual vagrants, should be treated
 “differently, and, for the purpose of assisting them to employ-
 “ment, we favour the establishment of labour bureaux.

“But, whether the ‘tramp’ be an habitual vagrant, or an
 “unemployed workman, it is manifest from the recent
 “experiences of very many local authorities—and this
 “County is no exception—that infectious disease, and par-
 “ticularly small-pox, is spread through his agency. It
 “seems imperative, therefore, that legislative steps should be
 “taken to give better control over the ‘tramp’ to prevent him
 “being a source of danger to the communities with which he
 “successively comes in contact.

“A much larger question is however, raised, in dealing
 “with the tramp nuisance, namely, the possibility of bringing
 “about the extinction of the habitual vagrant by drafting him
 “into labour colonies and compelling him to useful work.
 “Nothing could very well be worse than the present system
 “under which the tramps are received into a casual ward,
 “where they receive food and shelter under more or less
 “degrading conditions, are compelled to do a little work of an
 “unremunerative character, and are then turned out upon the
 “roads to beg their way to the next workhouse. Under such
 “conditions it would be hopeless to expect to do anything to
 “reform the vagrants, and consequently we do not attempt
 “it. They appear to have no objection to short sentences
 “of “hard labour,” which they often earn, for they are not
 “badly fed in prison, the labour is not severe, and they are
 “soon on their career again.

“The means for punishing the loafer and the beggar are
 “not sufficiently methodical, and it is suggested with a good

“ deal of force that the habitual vagrant should be obliged to
 “ live a life of some utility to the State at a less cost than he
 “ now imposes on the community in Vagrant Wards and
 “ Prisons. “ Labour Colonies” have been established for some
 “ years past in several continental countries, notably Ger-
 “ many, Holland, and Belgium, and, in these, habitual
 “ vagrants are detained for considerable periods and trained
 “ to perform simple manual, but productive, labour appro-
 “ priate to their capacities. Such ‘ Colonies,’ if made compul-
 “ sory, would seem to have some prospect of success in
 “ controlling the unlimited vagrancy of this country ; but our
 “ conditions of labour and labour markets, of police super-
 “ vision, and of local government differ so greatly from those
 “ commonly met with on the Continent, that we do not think
 “ more can be expected at the present time than that the
 “ subject should receive the greatest consideration, in order
 “ that a general practical scheme may eventually be devised
 “ for dealing with habitual vagrancy.”

I have only to add that I trust some effective result may be the outcome of the Conference, for the spread of Small Pox by Vagrants is a really serious matter for the community.

Scarlet Fever.—There was an enormous increase of scarlet-fever prevalence in the County during 1904, as compared with previous years. This increased prevalence was largely due to the spread of the disease into the neighbouring rural districts of the County from the Borough of Northampton. During the year 1904, there were 540 cases in the combined Urban Districts and 587 cases in the combined Rural Districts, making a total of 1,127 cases in the Administrative County as against 495 in 1903, 602 in 1902, 570 in 1901, and 816 in 1900. The total scarlet-fever prevalence was equal to a sickness-rate of 0·52 per cent. of the total estimated population of the county, as against a like rate of

0·23 per cent. in 1903. In the combined Urban Districts the rate was 0·55 per cent. as against 0·21 per cent. in 1903, and in the combined Rural Districts it was 0·50 per cent. as against 0·25 per cent. in 1903. The total number of deaths from this disease in the Administrative County was 29 or 2·57 per cent. of the total cases, as against 3·03 per cent. in 1903, 1·82 per cent. in 1902, 1·57 per cent. in 1901, and 1·96 per cent. in 1900. Of these deaths, 15, or 51·7 per cent. were of children under five years of age. With the exception of two districts—the Borough of Daventry and the Crick Rural—the disease was general throughout the County in the year 1904; in the year 1903 only the Easton-on-the-Hill and Gretton Rural Districts escaped. The disease was, therefore, generally distributed throughout the County during both these years, but the extent to which it prevailed in 1904 was more than double that of the preceding year. The Urban Districts which suffered most in 1904 were Irthlingborough, Kettering, and Rushden, while the prevalence in the Rural Districts was greatest in Brixworth, Hardingstone, Northampton, and Wellingborough.

The following extracts from the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health are illustrative of the above facts :—

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“As regards the scarlet
 “fever cases two occurred in August, in separate localities,
 “the infection probably having been brought into the town
 “during the feast. The means employed to prevent its
 “spread were successful, and we remained free from the
 “disease till December, when another outbreak occurred to
 “the extent of 5 cases, with three centres of infection. Two
 “of these cases are still under observation. When scarlet
 “fever has to be treated at home the difficulty of preventing
 “its spread beyond the family in which it occurs is, in some
 “cases, practically insuperable and, at all times, very great on

“account of the length of time the patient remains in an
 “infective state. The prolonged segregation necessary—in
 “many cases not less than eight weeks—is very difficult to
 “carry out, causing as it does much discomfort, and
 “frequently pecuniary loss to the family. But it is only by
 “adopting vigorous measures in the early cases that we can
 “hope to prevent this formidable disease assuming unmanage-
 “able proportions.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“There were notified during the
 “year 35 cases of Scarlet Fever, all, with the exception of
 “two, occurring amongst children of school age, and of these
 “I regret to report that three terminated fatally. . . . On
 “the occurrence of every case full enquiries were made to
 “ascertain the source of infection, but unfortunately this
 “could not be clearly demonstrated. All needful precautions
 “were taken by your officers to prevent the disease spreading
 “and special inspections of the premises concerned were
 “made with the view of discovering any local conditions
 “likely to foster the disease, but in the great majority of the
 “cases the results were negative. Printed instructions
 “detailing the measures necessary for dealing with this
 “infectious disease were supplied to those in charge of the
 “sick, and children from infected households were directed
 “to be kept from school.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“Seven cases of Scarlet Fever
 “were reported, and as the Mulso Schools had become an
 “infected area, I ordered them to be closed a week prior to
 “the summer holidays, and afterwards had them well disin-
 “fected. The outbreak was effectually checked. Considering
 “the prevalence of this disease in the neighbouring township
 “of Irthlingborough, we were lucky to have escaped so
 “easily.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“176 cases were notified
 “during the year. 3 cases occurred in the months of April,

“ May, and July, in separate families, and in different parts
 “ of the town. In each case the patient was seen at the onset
 “ of the attack, and carefully isolated, and no spread took
 “ place. Of the remaining 173 cases, 45 occurred between 1
 “ and 5 years of age, 106 occurred between 5 and 15, 20
 “ between 15 and 25, and 12 between 25 and 65 years of age.
 “ In the interim report I presented to the Council on Novem-
 “ ber 5th, I pointed out that the source of infection of the
 “ first case—that of a married man, living in Lee’s Lane—
 “ could not be traced, and that with the exception of his
 “ wife who nursed him, no other case occurred in that neigh-
 “ bourhood at that time. The next case occurred in a boy
 “ named Litchfield, living in Addington Road. He was sent
 “ home from school, as the master had noticed a suspicious
 “ rash on his body. He was put to bed and isolated, and,
 “ within a week, desquamation commenced, and it was then
 “ that the mother showed me another child in the same state
 “ (of peeling) but much further advanced, although she had
 “ repeatedly assured me that none of the other members of
 “ the family had been ill. This child must have been ill for
 “ at least a fortnight, and had been getting about as usual.
 “ A fresh batch of cases then occurred in youths and men
 “ employed at the Empress Works, and nearly all of them out
 “ of one department. On investigation, it was found that two
 “ boys worked in that department, one day, at least, with the
 “ rash fully developed, and there is no doubt that all the
 “ other cases in that factory at that time were due to direct
 “ infection from these, as the majority fell within 4 or 5 days.
 “ Several cases amongst workpeople in another factory, could,
 “ I think be traced to infection conveyed on the clothing of
 “ the working members of one infected family. An unusual
 “ and rather remarkable feature of the first part of the out-
 “ break was the large proportion of the cases over 15 years of
 “ age. Out of the first 64 cases, 16 were over that age, and 8
 “ were in workers between the ages of 10 and 15. Through-

“out November the disease affected school children in
 “gradually increasing numbers, and on December 13th I
 “advised the Sanitary Authority to close all the Schools—in
 “the first instance for 4 weeks, and subsequently until
 “January 23rd. There is no doubt that the extent of the
 “epidemic was in great part due to the ignorance and gross
 “carelessness on the part of many of the families. Re-
 “peatedly, children were sent home from school with the
 “rash fully developed, and in some cases desquamation
 “had begun. Time after time batches of cases in children
 “out of a particular class-room could be traced to an infected
 “child attending school. . . Isolation was carried out, as
 “far as possible, in all the infected houses, but in most of the
 “cases the mother had to nurse the patient and attend to the
 “ordinary household duties as well, and, in those instances
 “where there were workers in the family, the infection was
 “likely to be conveyed from the mothers’ clothing to theirs,
 “and so to susceptible persons in the street and factory. To
 “minimise this risk, the manufacturers very wisely com-
 “pelled such workers either to leave their infected home and
 “take lodgings, or give up work. This, no doubt, caused a
 “good deal of hardship in some families, but I must com-
 “mend the action of the manufacturers.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“Scarlet Fever has been present
 “in the district throughout the whole year. . . Of these
 “cases, 110 recovered and 2 died; 78 of the cases were
 “removed to the Hospital, all of which recovered. The
 “accommodation at the Hospital was sufficient to receive all
 “who desired it, except for a short period during December,
 “when all the beds appropriated to this disease were full,
 “and 3 or 4 cases desirous of admission could not be received.
 “The number of fresh cases are now diminishing. Every
 “care as to disinfection of infected premises was exercised
 “by the Inspector.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“The two cases of Scarlatina were
“imported into the district.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“The Scarlet Fever cases were
“scattered over the whole year and were of a mild type.
“With very careful isolation and disinfection in every case
“we were able to prevent an epidemic. . . I may mention
“that the Scarlet Fever cases were all imported from outside
“sources, the origin being traceable in every case.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“With the exception of a few
“cases of Scarlatina, we have had no epidemic during
“the year. The Scarlatina was of a very mild type and no
“deaths resulted from it. In every case the strictest pre-
“cautions were taken, with the result that at no time was
“there any serious spread.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“Scarlet Fever has been prevalent
“during the year, having been first imported from North-
“ampton and Chesham. It has been of a mild type. . .
“151 cases have been reported, with 6 deaths, 3 being between
“1 and 5 years, and 3 between 5 and 15 years.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—Of the 24 cases of Scarlet-
fever, “3 were imported, 6 arose from direct infection, and
“the rest there was no apparent cause for. The cases were
“spread over the year, the greatest number being 7 in
“November.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“101 cases were notified as
“against 78 in 1903. . . 3 villages were responsible for 65
“cases, viz., Moulton 24, Old 21, Brixworth 20; these occurred
“in epidemic form, but of a very mild type with few excep-
“tions, and those were generally badly nursed. Cold Ashby
“and Guilsborough also towards the end of the year developed
“an epidemic. The disease occurred besides in the villages

“ of Boughton, Great Brington, Spratton, Ravensthorpe, Lam-
 “ port, Walgrave, Holcot, and Overstone. I have no doubt
 “ that over and over again separate villages became infected
 “ from Northampton ; as soon as one village became clear of
 “ the disease, it started in another, perhaps at the other end
 “ of the district, and in most cases it could be traced from
 “ Northampton. This Northampton epidemic largely ac-
 “ counted for the big total of Scarlatina notifications in our
 “ District, together with the fact that, during 1904, no case
 “ was sent to an Isolation Hospital ; all were nursed in their
 “ own homes with the exception of a few cases in Brixworth.
 “ In some of the villages where there were only one or two
 “ cases Isolation was properly carried out. There were 3
 “ deaths from the disease in the District of Residents. . .
 “ The schools of Moulton, Old, Brixworth, and Guilsborough
 “ were closed for varying periods for disinfection.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“ Scarlet Fever occurred in 7
 “ parishes ; 17 cases in Byfield, 9 cases in West Haddon, 8
 “ cases in both Weedon and Woodford-cum-Membris, 2 cases
 “ in Braunston, and single cases in Dodford and Watford ;
 “ two cases proved fatal, one at Byfield and one at Braunston ;
 “ most of these cases occurred during the last three months
 “ of the year, and were of a very mild type.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“ There was one case of
 “ Scarlet-fever, this occurring at an isolated farm-house in
 “ Easton parish.”

GRETTON RURAL.—“ With the exception of eight cases
 “ of Scarlet Fever at an isolated farm house in Laxton, your
 “ District enjoyed immunity. The cases, which were of a
 “ trivial type, were imported from Bulwick, where the
 “ children attended school, and where an epidemic prevailed
 “ during February and March. They were initially returned
 “ as diphtheria, which they appear to have closely simulated,
 “ the characteristic rash being evanescent or absent in the
 “ majority.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“Table III. shows the number of infectious cases notified during the year. This gives a total of 90 cases compared with 7 in 1903, 47 in 1902, 57 in 1901, and 30 in 1900. This large number is due entirely to the wide-spread epidemic of scarlet-fever, which has prevailed in these parts during the year, no less than 71 of this total being due to scarlet-fever. This disease has been universal in the town of Northampton, so many cases having occurred that it has been impossible to isolate them all, and, in this respect, it has been obliged to be left alone to burn itself out. Most of our villages closely surround the town, and there is much intercourse between them, so that it would have been very strange if we had not suffered from this epidemic, and in almost every case I have been able to trace the first case in a village to some contact with the town infection. The numbers, however, have varied much, and in a manner difficult to explain. Thus, in the Wootton district, not a single case was notified, though many men living in Wootton work in Northampton, going backwards and forwards daily. In the Brafield district, 55 cases were notified entirely in the three villages of Little Houghton, Brafield, and Yardley Hastings; whilst in the Hardingstone district, 16 were notified almost entirely from Piddington and Preston Deanery. Of these 71 cases, 57 were treated in the Infectious Hospital at Hardingstone, and no deaths occurred here, in fact, the epidemic has been a very mild one, and only one death altogether has been registered from it—a child dying at Brafield very early at the outset of the disease. Two other out-district cases were also treated in the Hospital.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“Twenty-six notifications of Scarlet Fever were made during the year, all of which recovered, and occurred as follows: Stanion 11, Burton Latimer 8, Great Oakley 2, Pytchley 1, Cransley 3, Cottingham 1. Sixteen of these were removed to the Hospital.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“ Five cases of infectious diseases have been reported to me. All these were cases of Scarlet Fever, occurring in the parish of Chipping Warden.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“ Table III. shows the cases of infectious disease notified during the year. There was a total of 103 cases, in comparison with 21 in 1903, 30 in 1902, 21 in 1901, and 12 in 1900. This is a very large increase, and is entirely accounted for by the large number of scarlet-fever cases that occurred during the year, no less than 83, so that if these are excluded the number of notified cases does not compare very unfavourably with previous years. The outbreak of scarlet-fever was almost entirely limited to the villages of Dallington, Harpole, and Bugbrooke, and in every case it was possible to trace the primary contagion to contact with persons in the town of Northampton. In this town scarlet-fever has been very general throughout the year; there have been so many cases that it has been impossible to isolate them in the hospital, and the disease has spread generally. Our villages are many of them so close to the town, and there is such free intercourse between them and the town, that I am surprised that only three villages have suffered, and that the others have escaped so entirely. I am still of opinion that we should be able to more thoroughly limit these diseases if we had an isolation hospital to which we could remove the first cases. In the Hardingstone district an epidemic has, I feel sure, been several times nipped in the bud by this early treatment, but in this district we can do little but advise. We have taken all the means we can, by distributing handbills with advice to people as to what means to take to limit the spread of the disease, and by freely disinfecting and distributing disinfectants; but I fear such advice is not often followed or the disease would not have spread so rapidly as it has done in the villages of Harpole and Bugbrooke. The epidemic at Dallington was,

“fortunately, strictly limited. One child living in a court at
 “the entrance to the village caught the disease from attending
 “school in the town, and it spread to eleven other cases in the
 “same court. By keeping the schools closed, and by strictly
 “ordering the children in the court not to mix with the
 “other village children, the disease quickly died out, so that
 “I think our advice in this case must have been followed.
 “Shortly after, another case occurred again in a child
 “attending a Northampton school, but the Hon. C. R. Spencer
 “most kindly offered to defray all expenses if this case could
 “be isolated, so I took the child at once into the Harding-
 “stone Isolation Hospital, and no other case caught the
 “infection—even in the same cottage. This again emphasizes
 “the point I have already made as to the value of such
 “hospitals. That our advice as to the isolation of these cases
 “was not followed in Bugbrooke we have had two striking
 “examples. In two cases during the year children have been
 “discovered running about the village, and even attending
 “school, during the peeling stage. In the first case a prose-
 “cution was undertaken by your Council and a fine of £1
 “was inflicted by the County Magistrates; the second case
 “has only just occurred, and is still under consideration as
 “to whether any prosecution shall be enforced. It is almost
 “impossible to limit an outbreak of this disease under these
 “conditions.”

OUNDLE RURAL.—“Bulwick was visited by a severe
 “epidemic of Scarlet Fever in March. One case was imported
 “from Wellingborough, and unfortunately was never notified,
 “but was sent to school in an infectious state. When I heard
 “of it the disease had secured a firm hold among the
 “children. The School was at once closed and the epidemic
 “soon subsided, although there were 24 cases, one of which
 “proved fatal. Two very mild cases of Scarlet Fever were
 “reported at the end of the year. Scarlet Fever has been
 “endemic in Nassington for a long time and again appeared

“in the early part of the year. Two cases occurred among
 “the schoolmaster’s family. I advised that the schoolmaster
 “lodge away from home and that the school be not closed.
 “Another case occurred in a public laundry, which was
 “closed for six weeks by the advice of the medical attendant.
 “A third case occurred in the Post Office, which was closed
 “by my advice. I regard these three cases as typical ones
 “where our Isolation Hospital would have proved most
 “useful. As no cases have been reported for the last nine
 “months I hope no more of this will be seen in Nassington,
 “unless it be imported from elsewhere. One case of Scarlet
 “Fever was seen at Polebrook which was successfully
 “isolated. Cases of Scarlet Fever were seen at Yarwell,
 “which were imported from Nassington. A man who was
 “farm servant, residing at the farm house, was removed to
 “the Isolation Hospital; this proved a great boon to his
 “master and himself. No further case occurred in the
 “house.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“Thirty-one cases of Scarlet-
 “fever were notified—all apparently of the usual mild type,
 “unattended by mortality, and generally spread by unrecog-
 “nised cases imported into the district. They do not call for
 “any special comment.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—At Thrapston, “A few cases of
 “Scarlatina were seen in October and November, but were
 “confined to two houses only.” At Brigstock, “A few mild
 “cases of Scarlatina were seen in the early part of the year,”
 and at Woodford, “two cases of Scarlatina were seen at the
 “end of the year, but the disease has not spread.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“Scarlet Fever 5 cases (all in one
 “house) at Gayton, 2 at Silverstone, 2 at Blisworth, and
 “isolated cases at Slapton, Whittlebury, Tiffield, and Weston.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“128 cases have been reported. . . with one death. The disease was brought “to the village”—Earls Barton—“by a soldier who came “direct from an isolation hospital. A week afterwards a case “was reported in the same house. A visitor from Northampton at Wilby was sent to Northampton isolation hospital; “no other case occurred.” It appears also that the disease spread to Mears Ashby, Wollaston, and Bozeat.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—It is exceedingly gratifying to be able to chronicle a continuance of the diminution in the prevalence of diphtheria and membranous croup. The number of cases for the year 1904 is the lowest in nine consecutive years in the county, though the death-rate from them is not quite the lowest. The total numbers for the year 1904 are 77 cases with 19 deaths, as against 85 cases and 17 deaths in 1903, 105 cases and 20 deaths in 1902, 122 cases and 39 deaths in 1901, 172 cases and 38 deaths in 1900, 119 cases and 28 deaths in 1899, 125 cases and 39 deaths in 1898, 99 cases and 27 deaths in 1897, and 101 cases and 21 deaths in 1896. The figures for 1904 are all the more satisfactory, as pointing to a less marked general distribution of the disease, when it is noted that three outbreaks in as many villages were responsible for about one-fourth of the total number of cases. The school-influence on two of these outbreaks—at Pytchley and Holdenby—was very marked. But, as I have before pointed out, it is not so satisfactory to find so great a disproportion in the incidence of this disease as exists between the Urban and Rural Districts of the County. In the year 1904 the incidence on the urban population was at the rate of 0·24 per 1,000 of population, as against 0·30 per 1,000 in 1903, and on the rural population it was 0·45 per 1,000 of population, as against 0·48 per 1,000 in 1903; while, therefore, the actual rates for the year 1904 are more favourable than in the preceding year, the difference of incidence between town and country is more marked. I

have always contended that greater efforts for the removal of conditions inimical to health are needed in the more rural districts of the county, and the foregoing figures are at least favourable to that contention. In the combined Urban Districts during 1904, there were 24 cases with 8 deaths, while in the combined Rural Districts there were 54 cases with 11 deaths. These mortalities give a death-rate of 33·3 per cent. of the cases in the Urban Districts, as against 17·24 per cent. in 1903, of 20·3 per cent in the Rural Districts, as against 21·42 per cent. in 1903, and of 24·6 per cent. in the Administrative County, as against 20·0 per cent. in 1903.

The following are the principal references in the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health in regard to this disease prevalence :

KETTERING URBAN.—“ In the town there were 10 cases “ of Diphtheria notified ; no common cause could be dis- “ covered for these cases. . . 5 of these were fatal, 3 were “ removed to the Hospital, 2 died.”

OUNCLE URBAN.—“ The case of Diphtheria occurred in “ the Union.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“ Six cases have been notified with 1 “ death.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—Of the 6 cases of Diph- theria, “ two cases were probably due to imperfect sanitary “ condition of drains, 1 from direct infection, and in the “ other 3 cases nothing could be ascertained regarding the “ origin of infection.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“ 14 cases were notified as against “ 34 for 1903 and 25 for 1902 ; 9 were isolated cases. Of “ these, one occurred at Holcot, possibly caused by insanitary “ condition of the school-privies. This was done away with,

“and the schools were properly connected with the sewer
 “and W.C.’s put in. One occurred at Teeton, due to the
 “W.C. being connected directly with the house. The W.C.
 “was disconnected. One occurred at Walgrave, where the
 “house was found in a filthy condition; the house was
 “thoroughly cleaned and white-washed. One case occurred
 “in Brixworth, probably imported. One case from Pitsford
 “was of a very doubtful nature. One in East Haddon was
 “clearly contracted from fowls suffering from Roup; the
 “fowls were destroyed, the coops lime-washed, and the
 “inhabitants of the house were injected with anti-toxin as a
 “preventative. Five cases occurred at Holdenby at various
 “dates during 1904. During the year this village has been
 “subject to frequent and close inspection. Existing venti-
 “lating shafts have been heightened, many new have been
 “put in. The sewers in the whole village have been practi-
 “cally retrapped. The schools have several times been
 “cleaned and disinfected. A separate water supply has been
 “found for the schools, the W.C.’s of which are flushed daily,
 “and the ashpits of the same were made small and properly
 “covered in. The village sewers are now flushed every week
 “instead of fortnightly. Many ashpits are made smaller and
 “covered in. Pigsties close to houses have been condemned,
 “and are now closed. Membranous Croup :—Two cases
 “occurred in a new house at Kingsthorpe, in which a pail
 “closet was kept in a dirty condition and opened almost into
 “the kitchen, and the sink was connected to a large tank
 “which was not ventilated in any way. The closet was
 “opened from the yard and ventilated; the sewage tank and
 “drain were properly ventilated.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The three cases of Diphtheria
 “were reported from Badby, from the one house, and all
 “were fatal. I traced the cause of the outbreak to the first
 “patient drinking contaminated water out of a ditch at the
 “side of a field.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The case of Diphtheria
 “occurred in the cottages connected with the Hunsbury Hill
 “Furnaces, and, on investigation, it was found that their well
 “had failed, and not only the cottages, but the men working
 “at the furnaces were getting their supply of drinking water
 “from anywhere that was handy, even sending for it to the
 “canal close by. The case was only reported last month, but
 “the proprietors of the works have promised temporarily to
 “cart drinking water to supply all these parts, and to at once
 “set to work to find a fresh and pure supply. The eight
 “cases of croup broke out at Roade where 5 children were
 “attacked, and the malady was traced to drinking impure
 “water ; two cases happened at the same time at Courteen-
 “hall, but they had been in contact with these first cases, so
 “doubtless caught the disease from them. I regret to say
 “that two of these cases proved fatal.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“Some anxiety was caused in the
 “month of January by an outbreak of Diphtheria at Pytchley ;
 “this village having been attacked in a similar manner in the
 “year 1900. The first case appeared to take the disease from
 “being engaged in carting water from a stagnant pond. It
 “was a very virulent case, and proved fatal very shortly after
 “removal to Hospital. Children in the vicinity of this man’s
 “residence were the next to fall of the disease, which con-
 “tinued till the beginning of February, when hopes were
 “entertained that the outbreak had been subdued ; but in
 “April a single case occurred, in May another, in June 3
 “cases were notified, 1 in August, and 1 (the last) in October.
 “The Schools were closed for a month in June, and every
 “scholar who attended after the re-opening was examined on
 “two or three separate occasions ; all the children who had
 “not perfectly healthy throats were not allowed to attend
 “school for a time after the examinations were made. Mr.
 “Paget, the County Medical Officer, kindly gave his assistance
 “and advice after making a thorough examination of the

“village. Every case was removed to the Hospital, and the
 “only fatal case was the first which occurred, as named
 “above. The only other case of Diphtheria occurred at
 “Stanion, where the illness did not spread.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“Of the cases of diphtheria
 “notified, one occurred at Kislingbury, but was very doubtful,
 “and the medical man in attendance afterwards stated that
 “he did not think it was diphtheria. Another case was
 “notified at Bugbrooke, where the yard and pigsties were in
 “a very filthy condition, and had probably contaminated the
 “water supply. The third case of diphtheria and the case of
 “membranous croup (fatal) occurred at New Duston, in two
 “children who were cousins living in different houses there.
 “The first case was traced to drinking impure water into
 “which a drain leaked, but by cleaning out the well, bricking
 “and cementing it thoroughly, a remedy seems to have been
 “found. The second child was an infant at the breast, and
 “had visited the other one, so we can only suppose that it
 “caught the disease directly from it.”

OXENDON RURAL.—Of two cases of Diphtheria, one “was
 “probably contracted elsewhere.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“Two cases were notified ; one
 “at Grafton, and the other at Old Stratford, both due to
 “untrapped foul drains, which have been rectified.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“The 2 cases of Diphtheria were
 “at Stoke Bruerne and Blakesley.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—Six cases have been notified
 —four in the “Earls Barton district and two in the Higham
 “Ferrers district, with two deaths.”

Enteric Fever.—Though well below the average for
 the preceding eight years, the number of cases of enteric-
 fever during the year 1904 was higher than in either of the

years 1903 and 1902. There was, however, only one serious epidemic of the disease, and that was in the Finedon Urban District, though the numbers of cases in the Wellingborough Urban and Rural Districts seem to be larger than they should be. The portion of the latter district which was most affected was the Earls Barton division, but the explanation for such prevalence does not appear. Among the Urban Districts, the Boroughs of Brackley, Daventry, and Higham Ferrers, Oundle, and Rothwell have no record of cases of the disease, and the same is noticeable of the Brackley, Crick, Easton-on-the-Hill, Gretton, Middleton Cheney, Oundle, and Oxendon Rural Districts. In the year 1904, the number of cases of Enteric Fever notified in the Administrative County was 132, as against 102 cases in the year 1903, 121 cases in 1902, 276 cases in 1901, 144 cases in 1900, 287 cases in 1899, 226 cases in 1898, 143 cases in 1897, and 303 cases in 1896. The cases during 1904 numbered 90 in the combined Urban Districts, and 42 in the combined Rural Districts, as against 63 and 39 respectively in the year 1903. The total number of deaths from the disease was 19, as against 15 in the year 1903. Of these deaths, 11, or 12·2 per cent. of the cases occurred in the Urban Districts, and 8, or 19·0 per cent. of the cases, in the Rural Districts. The combined death-rate for the Administrative County was 14·4 per cent. of the total cases, as against 14·7 per cent. in the year 1903.

The following references to the prevalence of this disease are to be found in the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“The cases of Enteric Fever notified were 7 as compared with 37 for 1903. One of these unhappily proved fatal. Four of the cases occurred in the first quarter of the year, and the others in June and July. After the latter month, and during that season of the year when Typhoid Fever does most abound, we had a clean bill of health as regards that disease.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“During the past year, with the
 “exception of the outbreak of Enteric Fever, the Public
 “Health has been good. Thirty-eight cases of Enteric Fever
 “were reported, and four deaths occurred. I presented
 “special reports to you during the epidemic. The outbreak
 “was without doubt due, in the majority of cases, to the
 “drinking of water contaminated with sewage matter. A few
 “of the cases were contact cases. The water of the wells
 “suspected was forbidden to be used for domestic purposes.
 “The services of a trained Nurse were obtained, and funds
 “for payment of the same provided, by the Committee of the
 “old Nursing Association. To the thorough and conscientious
 “way in which the Nurse performed her duties is due the
 “smallness of the death-rate from Zymotic Disease.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“Six cases were notified
 “during the year. The first case occurred in a girl living
 “with her parents in Central Estate. No cause could be
 “assigned, and no other member of the family fell of it. The
 “other 5 cases occurred in December amongst the members
 “of one family living in High Street East. The house is one
 “of a detached block of 5, and the cause of the outbreak is
 “at present inexplicable. The drainage was found to be
 “satisfactory, and the water was obtained from a well which
 “regularly supplies at least six other families.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“Eleven cases only of Typhoid
 “Fever were notified during the past year; these had no
 “common cause. . . 3 of these cases were fatal, 7 of these
 “cases were removed to the Hospital, 1 of which was fatal.
 “. . . The gradual diminution in cases of this illness is
 “very satisfactory.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“With the exception of the case of
 “Enteric Fever with Pneumonia, we had no deaths from
 “Infectious Disease during the year.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“There have been five cases notified
“with no death.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“There were 22 cases
“notified; of these, 8 arose from imperfect hygienic con-
“ditions in the personal surroundings of the patients, 1 from
“drinking impure water obtained from the brook in the
“Castle Meadows, 6 were subsequent cases, 1 was imported,
“and for the remainder there was no apparent cause. Six-
“teen cases were notified in the three months of September,
“October, and November, and none in December, the rest
“were in the earlier part of the year.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“Six cases were notified as against
“2 for last year. One at Holdenby was at the South Lodge,
“where the extensive farm-yard drains and those of the house
“were ventilated by a single shaft about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above a bed-
“room window and where there was a strong in-draught. This
“shaft was carried upwards for 10 feet, and another put in at
“the upper level of the drainage, on the other side of the
“house. A large inspection chamber was made where the
“house and yard drains join, with a proper air-inlet. One
“case was at Harlestone Rectory, where again structural
“defects were found to the ventilation of the sewers. These
“were at once put in order. One case was at Brixworth, where
“no defects could be traced. The other 3 cases occurred at
“Moulton. 1. Boy aged 13 years, said to have drunk
“unwholesome water at the farm on which he works; others
“were known to drink the water. On seeking for a further
“cause, I discovered that the sink and yard drains passed
“directly under the kitchen to the main sewer a few yards
“distant from the house, and that the sewer was in no way
“disconnected from the house-drains. A disconnecting
“chamber was put down, and the drains ventilated by air-
“shafts. 2. Reported from the house next to Case 1. Here
“again there was no disconnection between the main sewer

“and yard drains, which were close to and above the level of
 “the sewer. The same treatment to drains was carried out.
 “3. At Moulton Grange Gardens, where much money had
 “evidently been spent in putting down drains leading to
 “tank, but in which ventilation had been omitted. Venti-
 “lating shafts were erected.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The case of Enteric Fever was
 “reported from Weedon, and recovered.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The case of enteric-fever
 “was reported from Hardingstone, and was due to the patient
 “drinking impure water from a surface well in her garden.
 “There was not the least necessity for drinking such water,
 “in fact, all the people in Hardingstone have been warned not
 “to drink from their surface wells as a good supply of water
 “is laid on in this village, and there was a tap within a very
 “few yards of this cottage. On the other hand I do not like
 “to close such wells, as they are of unquestionable use in
 “augmenting our supply if used for cleaning and flushing
 “purposes only, and in the case of a dry summer it might
 “not be possible to do without them.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“Four notifications of Typhoid
 “Fever only were received: 2 from Geddington, 2 from
 “Burton Latimer; all of these were removed to the Hospital,
 “3 recovered, and 1 from Burton Latimer died.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“Excluding two cases of
 “enteric-fever at Berry Wood Asylum, seven cases were
 “notified. Three of these cases occurred at separate times in
 “Old Duston, and the other four broke out simultaneously at
 “Bugbrooke. The first case at Bugbrooke had been working
 “at Broughton, near Kettering, and probably contracted the
 “disease there, as there were cases in that village. The other
 “three cases resided in the same yard as the first man, and
 “the water in this yard on analysis was found to be very

“ impure. Of the Duston cases, the first, which was unfortunately quickly fatal, occurred in a young man who had just come to live in a small house at the lower end of the village, and who was employed at Berry Wood Asylum. On analysis, the water supply of this house was found very impure, and the well was ordered to be closed. The second case fell ill a very short time after her return from a holiday at Llandudno, and there can be little doubt that the disease was contracted there, as the water supply was found to be good and there were no other cases in the surrounding cottages. The third case in Duston was pretty clearly traced to drinking contaminated rain-water, which was collected in an underground tank into which there had been leakage from a defective drain pipe. There was not the least occasion for such water to be used for drinking, as there was a good pump supply within easy reach.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“ One case notified, viz. at Potterspury, on the 9th January, a continuation of the outbreak in December (see report for 1903), due to a highly polluted well. Fortunately the outbreak was limited to four cases, namely, three at Potterspury, and one which developed in London. The well has been closed, as it was found impossible to prevent contamination, owing to its situation and surroundings.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—At Brigstock, there was seen “ one case of Enteric Fever in October.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ Of the 5 cases of Enteric Fever 4 occurred at Abthorpe where it was imported from Earls Barton by a woman who had been nursing her son who died of the disease. The other one was a boy at Blisworth who was employed on a canal boat and who was in the habit of being 10 or 12 days at a time away from home—it was not discoverable in this case how the disease had been contracted.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“13 cases have been reported—12 in the Earls Barton district and one in the Higham Ferrers district, with three deaths, all of which were in the Earls Barton district.”

Puerperal Fever.—The number of cases of puerperal-fever during the year 1904 was rather greater than for some years past ; but I have not, except in one instance, been able to attribute a case to inefficiency on the part of a midwife, and, in the case of the exception, the person employed was not a certified midwife. In the case of two midwives, however, I considered it advisable to recommend abstention from practice for a few weeks, and this was promptly acted upon. The total number of cases in the Administrative County was 15 with 9 deaths, as against 7 cases and 3 deaths in the year 1903, 8 cases and 3 deaths in 1902, 4 cases and no deaths in 1901, and 13 cases and 7 deaths in 1900. The early reports of District Medical Officers of Health on cases occurring in the practice of Midwives have proved exceedingly useful.

The following remarks on cases have appeared in the Annual Reports :—

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—There was one case of Puerperal Fever, which recovered.

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“One case, said to have been caused by a dirty attendant. She has been warned not to attend further cases.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The case of Puerperal Fever occurred in Long Buckby, and proved fatal.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The case of puerperal-fever occurred at Milton, and, unfortunately, was quickly fatal from hyperpyrexia. She was attended by a doctor, and the

“disease did not spread. No case of puerperal-fever attended by a midwife has been notified during the year. . . . As we have a most efficient Disinfector, any case can be at once treated should such arise.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“Four cases of Puerperal Fever occurred : 3 at Burton, and 1 at a lodge near Warkton : 3 of these unfortunately proved fatal.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“The case of puerperal-fever arose at Bugbrooke, and was attended in her confinement by the doctor there. No other case has been notified, and no case of puerperal-fever attended by a midwife has at present been notified in this district.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“There have been two cases reported, with one death.”

Erysipelas.—There was an increase in the number of notifications in this disease during 1904 as compared with recent past years ; there was also a slightly increased mortality. I hazarded the suggestion in my report for 1903, when the number of cases seemed to be unduly large, that the increased incidence might have been associated with the extremely unfavourable climatic conditions of that year. The circumstances of the year 1904 do not lend themselves in support of that suggestion ; but I am more inclined to regard the continued depression of trade, with its inevitable consequences on the well-being of the community, as a more probable predisposing cause for the development of the disease under conditions the effects of which might have been more readily resisted by a well-nourished body. It is at least noticeable and significant that over 34·0 per cent. of the total cases occurred in the Urban Districts of Kettering and Wellingborough, where the depression of trade has been severe. There were in all 247 cases notified in the Administrative County during the year 1904 with 6 deaths—two

being under five years of age,—as against 209 cases and 4 deaths in 1903, 187 cases and 6 deaths in 1902, 146 cases and 5 deaths in 1901, and 165 cases and 4 deaths in the year 1900. The distribution of the cases and deaths was as follows:—in the combined Urban Districts there were 120 cases and 3 deaths, and in the combined Rural Districts 127 cases and 3 deaths. The percentage case-mortality for the combined Urban Districts was 2·5 as against 0·0 in 1903, 3·19 in 1902, 7·57 in 1901, and 5·79 in 1900, while in the combined Rural Districts it was 2·3, as against 3·36 in 1903, 3·22 in 1902, and 0·0 in 1901 and 1900. For the whole Administrative County the mortality was 2·4 per cent. of the cases, as against 1·91 for the year 1903, and 3·2 for 1902.

Measles.—The extent to which Measles prevailed in the County during the year 1904 does not appear to have differed greatly from what was experienced in the preceding year ; but the amount of mortality was rather less than in 1903. Mortality is only recorded in two of the Urban Districts—Kettering and Rushden—and five of the Rural Districts—Brackley, Brixworth, Hardingstone, Potterspury, and Wellingborough. The total number of deaths in these seven districts was 24, as against 30 in eight districts in 1903, 19 in eight districts in 1902, and 32 in sixteen districts in 1901. In the year 1904 there were 10 deaths, all under five years of age, in the Urban Districts, and 14 deaths, of which 11 were under five years of age, in the Rural Districts. As I have before pointed out, the mortality from measles is most commonly due to want of care in keeping the patients from too early exposure to cold, as a consequence of which lung and other complications are liable to supervene on an already debilitated constitution.

The following references to the prevalence of this disease are to be found in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

KETTERING URBAN.—“ Measles has been somewhat prevalent two or three times during the year, many of the cases were slight ones, but 9 deaths were certified as caused by this disease.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“ Measles—not notifiable, has caused 1 death.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“ Measles have been prevalent during the past year in the villages of Walgrave, and Old, where the National Schools were closed for some weeks.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“ Outbreaks of Measles occurred during the year in Staverton, Braunston, and Ashby St. Ledgers, but no case proved fatal.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“ The Schools at Wootton and Quinton have been closed on account of an epidemic of measles at these two villages. I regret to say that the epidemic was a very severe one, and two deaths were registered from it, or twice as many deaths from this as from scarlet-fever, though there were many more cases of the latter. There is no doubt that measles lately has been a more intractable disease than scarlet-fever, and this fact has been noted in other sanitary districts.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ Measles was prevalent during May, June, July, September, and October, but as ‘notification’ is not required, and as in many cases medical aid is not sought it is impossible to give numbers.” No death was attributed to this disease during the year.

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“ Measles, not notifiable, has caused two deaths, both in the Finedon district. . . . In May an epidemic of Measles occurred at Harrowden, and the schools were closed for four weeks.”

Rötheln, or German Measles.—Mention is made of this disease for the first time in nine years in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health. It is a disease which does not usually cause mortality, and none is attributed to it in this County during the year 1904 ; but the following references will show the extent to which the disease has prevailed :—

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“ One case of ‘ German Measles,’ ” but it recovered.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ In January, a few cases
“ of German Measles appeared amongst school children, and
“ during the first fortnight of February the disease became so
“ prevalent that I felt justified in recommending the closure
“ of the Schools from February 14th for 2 weeks. This had
“ the desired effect, and by the end of the month the
“ epidemic amongst children had ceased, and the schools
“ were opened with an average attendance. The disease then
“ began to affect the adult portion of the population, and
“ people of all ages were attacked. The symptoms were
“ much more severe than in children, but no deaths took place
“ amongst either class.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“ There was an epidemic of German Measles in June and July, but it was only of a very mild nature.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“ An epidemic of German Measles at Oxendon.”

Chicken Pox.—As in the case of Rötheln, there was no mortality from this disease, and the extent to which it prevailed appears to have been even less :—

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“ One case of Chicken-pox ” came under notice, but it recovered.

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“An outbreak of Chicken-pox
“was reported to me at Stowe-nine-Churches during March.”

Whooping Cough.—The number of deaths from this disease in the whole Administrative County during the year 1904 amounted to 40, or exactly the same number as in the year 1903, and as against 64 in the year 1902, 29 in 1901, and 46 in 1900. There were 21 deaths in the combined Urban Districts, of which 19 were of children under five years of age, and 19 in the combined Rural Districts all of which were of children under five years of age.

The following particulars as to the prevalence of this disease are to be found in the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“A few cases of whooping-cough ” came under notice, but no deaths therefrom.

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—There were two deaths, “both of children, and due to whooping-cough, which was “very prevalent during the early part of the year.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“Whooping Cough was somewhat “prevalent during the earlier part of the year, and accounted “for four of the deaths.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“Whooping-cough—not notifiable, “has caused 7 deaths.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“Whooping Cough in epidemic “form was severe in Creaton, Brixworth, Old, and Walgrave. “The Creaton Schools were closed for three weeks.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“Outbreaks of Whooping Cough “occurred in Hellidon, Catesby, and Braunston, during the “year ; four fatal cases being registered at Braunston, and “one at Catesby.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“Whooping-cough has proved fatal in 2 cases only, 1 at Weekley, 1 at Great Oakley.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“There has been an epidemic of Whooping Cough in the villages of Upper and Lower Boddington since autumn.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“A large outbreak of Whooping-cough at Braybrooke.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“Whooping Cough has caused four deaths, all being in the Higham Ferrers district. . . In April there was an outbreak of Whooping Cough at Little Irchester, necessitating the closure of the schools for a month.”

Diarrhœa.—Diarrhœa was a more fatal disease during 1904 than in the four preceding years, and the marked increase over the two immediately preceding years is probably accounted for by the greater summer heat of 1904. There were in all 57 deaths from this disease in the whole Administrative County, as against 28 deaths in the year 1903, 22 in 1902, 50 in 1901, 52 in 1900, 102 in 1899, 87 in 1898, 77 in 1897, and 47 in 1896. Of the deaths during the year 1904, 43 occurred in the combined Urban Districts, of which all but two were children under five years of age, and 14 in the combined Rural Districts, of which all but one were of children under five years of age. The fatality of the disease was, therefore, greater in the Urban than in the Rural Districts, and in Kettering and Wellingborough more than elsewhere.

The following are brief references to the subject :—

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“Although Diarrhœa was not prevalent to any great extent it was responsible for one death.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“Infantile Diarrhœa was
“exceedingly prevalent during August and September, but
“no deaths took place. It is rather remarkable and note-
“worthy, that no death from Diarrhœa has occurred during
“the last 3 years.”

Influenza.—There were 24 deaths from epidemic influenza in the whole Administrative County during the year 1904, as against 35 deaths in the year 1903. Of these 24 deaths, 10 occurred in the combined Urban Districts, one being of a child under five years of age, and 14 occurred in the combined Rural Districts, of which one also was of a child under five years of age. The greatest amount of mortality—more than one fourth of the whole—fell on the Borough of Daventry; but the disease does not appear to have been as severe in other parts of the county.

The following references to the subject are to be found in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“At the end of the year an
“epidemic of influenza was prevalent.”

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“Of the other infectious diseases,
“influenza has occasioned the most trouble and has caused 7
“deaths or one more than for 1903.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“Cases of Influenza cropped up
“more or less throughout the year, and although responsible
“for a good deal of suffering caused no death.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“Influenza, though prevalent in
“March, April, October, and December, during the rest of the
“year was sporadic, and, on the whole, of a mild type.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“Influenza has caused one
“death between 25 and 65 years, in the Higham Ferrers dis-
“trict.”

ISOLATION HOSPITALS AND DISINFECTION.

Attention is still being given by the Medical Officers of Health to the question of hospital accommodation, though I am not able to record any decisions to supply such in districts which are without it. The scheme for a Joint Hospital for the Rugby Districts, in which the Crick Rural District is to join, has been advanced another step, and the new hospital for the Oundle Rural District has come into use. I am, however, more concerned that every District should be provided with efficient means for the satisfactory disinfection of clothing, as the absence of such provision renders it extremely difficult to control the spread of infectious disease. Moreover, the Rules of the Central Midwives Board place the responsibility on the local district council of providing against the spread of puerperal fever by the stoving of the non-washable clothing of a midwife. I am satisfied that enough attention to this subject of disinfection of clothing has not been given by many of the District Councils of the County, and that they should no longer delay in making the provision indicated, without delay, in the interests of their respective communities.

The following extracts from the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health are of interest :—

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—Referring to the difficulty of dealing with convalescing cases of scarlet-fever, “I must again remind you that we still labour under the great disadvantage of having no means of properly dealing with infected clothing, which is the most frequent means by which this disease is spread.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“The Isolation Hospital for Small Pox stands ready for the reception of any case that might occur, but, fortunately, hitherto it has not been found necessary to make use of it.” The Medical Officer of Health

also says, in regard to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever, “It
 “is on occasions such as this when combative efforts are
 “directed against an infectious disease such as Scarlet Fever
 “that the need of a Steam Disinfector and a Hospital for the
 “proper treatment and isolation of cases becomes sorely felt.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—The need of an Isolation Hospital was prominently brought to the notice of the Urban Council by the extensive prevalence of Scarlet Fever. The Council considered that the time was not suitable for proceeding with the matter, for reasons presumably which may be found in the following extract from the report :—“The
 “most important function served by an Isolation Hospital is
 “that of the isolation of the first case or two of an infectious
 “disease, with a view of preventing its further spread. It is
 “not intended for the housing of the sick wholesale. I am
 “strongly of opinion that in many instances a proper Isolation
 “Hospital would be found most serviceable in checking the
 “spread of infectious disease. But, owing to the depressed
 “state of trade generally, and the already high and increasing
 “rates, the present time is, I am afraid, not very opportune
 “for bringing the matter prominently forward. . . . Before
 “leaving the subject I need hardly remind the Council that
 “no provision has yet been made for the isolation of Small
 “Pox cases. Vaccination and re-vaccination would have to
 “be general to obviate the necessity of such provisions. As
 “several beds have had to be destroyed during the year—and
 “replaced by the Council—I would again strongly recom-
 “mend the purchase of a Thresh’s Emergency Disinfector.
 “One or two of the neighbouring Councils might be found
 “willing to join in the purchase.”

KETTERING URBAN AND RURAL.—“The Joint Isolation
 “Hospitals of the Urban and Rural Districts have again
 “proved to be of the greatest service, and although with regard
 “to the speedy extinction of infectious illness, the Rural

“ District appears to benefit more decidedly than the Urban,
 “ it must never be forgotten that the relatives of those who
 “ use it are at once set free from the irksome isolation, and
 “ avoidance of others, which would necessarily take place if
 “ the sick persons had remained at home. On January 1st,
 “ 1904, 7 cases of Scarlet Fever remained in the Hospitals.
 “ During the year 89 cases were admitted from the Urban
 “ District. Out of this number 78 were Scarlet Fever, all of
 “ which recovered ; 7 were Typhoid Fever, 1 of which proved
 “ fatal ; 3 were Diphtheria, 1 of which proved fatal ; 1 was
 “ Erysipelas, removed from the General Hospital. From the
 “ Rural District 31 cases were admitted : 12 from Pytchley,
 “ 11 Diphtheria, 1 Scarlet Fever ; 9 from Burton, 7 Scarlet
 “ Fever, 2 Typhoid Fever ; 4 from Geddington, 2 Scarlet
 “ Fever, 2 Typhoid Fever ; 6 from Stanion, all Scarlet Fever.
 “ On December 31st, 1904, 24 cases remained under treat-
 “ ment, all Scarlet Fever cases. The total number of cases
 “ admitted to the Hospitals during the year was 120, 4 of
 “ which proved fatal, 2 Diphtheria, 2 Typhoid Fever.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“ Our freedom from zymotic disease
 “ is due, in a great measure, to the excellence of our water
 “ supply and sewerage. We are, however, liable to get
 “ epidemics imported into the district, and I trust our Council
 “ will consider the question of isolation, and I hope some
 “ means may be found whereby we can join the Rural Dis-
 “ trict in the management and use of their Isolation Hospital.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—A similar account of the hospital
 accommodation is given, as appeared in the Annual Report
 for the year 1903 ; but it was not found necessary to use the
 new Isolation Hospital during 1904.

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The Small-pox Hospital
 “ is situated a mile from the town, and is quite isolated ; it is
 “ in good order and ready for use. The Isolation Hospital

“for Zymotic Diseases is in good condition; twelve cases
 “received treatment there during the year—2 Scarlet-fever
 “and 10 Typhoid. . . Disinfection either by the Formalin
 “process or Sulphur has been carried out personally by the
 “Sanitary Inspector after each infectious case.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—“The question of an Isolation Hos-
 “pital has not yet been settled.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“The Methods of dealing with
 “Infectious Disease are by Notification, Cottage Isolation,
 “and, in special cases, by opening small isolation hospitals in
 “affected villages, *i.e.*, renting some cottage and sending cases
 “there: in the event of Small Pox, by an isolation tent.
 “Disinfection is done by Formalin Gas, and by Sulphur Fumes.
 “The district is practically without an Isolation Hospital, as,
 “during the past year, if we had wanted to, it would have
 “been impossible to get a case into the Borough Isolation
 “Hospital because it was always full of cases from Northamp-
 “ton. During the past year, the County Medical Officer
 “wrote, in remarking on the outbreak of Diphtheria at
 “Holdenby, ‘How much the spread of the Disease may
 “‘have been favoured by the inadequate disinfection of
 “‘clothing belonging to infected children I cannot say, but
 “‘it is a very serious matter of regret that the Brixworth
 “‘Rural District Council should be unprovided with a suit-
 “‘able portable disinfecting chamber, such as is now
 “‘procurable at a moderate cost.’ I think that an opinion
 “like the above . . . is worth your earnest consideration.”

CRICK RURAL.—“During the year a Local Government
 “Board Inquiry was held with the view of obtaining a
 “Provisional Order for the erection of a Joint Hospital for
 “the Rugby Urban, and the Rugby, Monk’s Kirby, and Crick
 “Rural Districts. A Joint Small-pox Hospital for these
 “districts was erected during the previous year.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“The Joint Hospitals have been
 “used nearly all through the year, and as has been noticed on
 “previous occasions have apparently been the means of
 “arresting the spread of disease with more marked benefit in
 “the Rural than in the Urban District, which can be readily
 “understood, because the smaller population of the villages
 “can be more readily supervised than that of a large town.
 “Infectious Diseases seemed, during the past year, to have
 “been very satisfactorily arrested by the removal of the
 “earliest cases to Hospital from Burton Latimer and Gedding-
 “ton. In Stanion, Scarlet Fever, imported at first from
 “Wisbeach, did not come under the notice of a Doctor until
 “several slight cases had occurred, but the removal of the
 “schoolmaster’s daughter, and a girl from the Post Office,
 “proved of great benefit. A single case from Pytchley,
 “removed immediately the case was recognised, was fortu-
 “nately not followed by others. . . . No case of Small Pox
 “occurred during the year, but the building set apart for the
 “reception of cases of this disease has been kept in repair,
 “and always ready for the reception of cases at a moment’s
 “notice.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“There are no methods
 “of dealing with Infectious diseases. There is no Isolation
 “Hospital, neither is there any provision made for the disin-
 “fection of infected clothing.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“There has been no occasion
 “to use the hospital tent for small pox that was obtained for
 “that purpose, as no cases of that disease have been notified
 “this year. On several occasions, however, we have been
 “able to make use of the arrangement with the Northampton
 “Town Council for the proper disinfection of bedding and
 “other articles, after their infection from the different in-
 “fectious diseases.”

OUNDLE RURAL.—“The Isolation Hospital, which has
 “been under consideration for a long time, was completed
 “last summer, and will prove an immense advantage in
 “dealing with suitable cases. The Hospital contains 8 beds,
 “it is well situated, and no pains nor expense have been
 “spared to make it thoroughly efficient. The interior presents
 “a warm and comfortable appearance, quite equal to any
 “other hospital of the kind. The grounds outside are taste-
 “fully planted and will look well in the summer. The
 “accommodation for the staff is admirable, but I do not
 “think there is anything which would be considered un-
 “necessary. It is necessary that nurses should be comfortably
 “provided for. A disinfecting apparatus has been erected by
 “the Thresh Company, which will prove of use for all cases of
 “Infectious Disease, whether they come into the Hospital or
 “not. An Ambulance Brougham of the latest pattern has
 “been generously presented to the Hospital by Lord Lilford ;
 “by means of which a patient can easily be moved from the
 “furthest part of the District. So far we have had to pro-
 “vide for only one patient ; this is owing to the almost
 “entire absence of Infectious Disease since the Hospital was
 “opened last July.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“There being no disinfectors we
 “have to rely upon the courtesy of the Market Harborough
 “Urban District Council in allowing the use of their disin-
 “fectors if such is actively required. There is still no pro-
 “vision made within the District for isolation of such cases as
 “could not be efficiently isolated at their own homes, and
 “though the District for several years has shown a remarkable
 “immunity from Infectious Diseases, yet there is always the
 “possibility of an outbreak under very difficult conditions
 “for isolation in Cottages with very limited space and accom-
 “modation.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“The ‘Thresh’s Emergency Dis-
 “infectors,’ the Sanitary Inspector informs me, has worked

“ quite satisfactorily and there has been no complaint of any
 “ article submitted to it being spoiled. The tents provided in
 “ case of an outbreak of Small Pox have, I am glad to say, never
 “ been called into requisition, but are in order and readiness
 “ should any necessity for them arise.”

VACCINATION.

In my Annual Report for the year 1903, I gave a Table which presented an Analysis of the Returns of the Vaccination Officers for the different Unions of the County for the years 1893—1902. I now submit the same table, with the additional facts for the year 1903. It will be noticed that, though the total percentage of children not finally accounted for in the year 1903 was less than in any of the preceding years, the proportion of certificates of successful vaccination is showing signs of becoming less again, coincident with a removal of imminent risk of small-pox infection, and that a larger number of certificates of conscientious objections are evidently being applied for. I am afraid that, for some years to come, it will be found that the main stimulus to the performance of vaccination will be in the fear of contracting small-pox, and that, in the absence of this fear, “ conscience ” will assert itself.

The following brief references to this subject are to be found in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“ Vaccination has been far less in
 “ vogue than in 1903. The disappearance of small-pox as a
 “ near danger has no doubt something to say to this.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ Concerning Vaccination I have
 “ to thank the Vaccination Officer for the following
 “ details :—In the combined district 89 children were vacci-
 “ nated and Exemption Certificates were granted to 60

ANALYSIS OF VACCINATION OFFICERS' RETURNS, 1893-1903.

UNIONS OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.		PERCENTAGES OF BIRTHS IN RESPECTIVE YEARS.																										
		Certificates of "Successful Vaccination."						Certificates of "Conscientious Objection."						Children not finally accounted for.						Total Living Unvaccinated.								
		(Col. 1.)						(Col. 2.)						(Col. 3.)						(Col. 2 + Col. 3.)								
1893-97	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	*	1893-97	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	*	1893-97	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903
BRACKLEY ...	39·1	18·4	56·7	59·8	55·0	67·0	66·2	10·9	8·8	10·8	13·6	9·6	11·8	47·7	63·5	23·9	22·7	25·4	18·8	16·4	49·3	74·4	32·7	33·5	39·0	28·4	28·2	BRACKLEY
BRIXWORTH ...	42·9	17·8	42·3	54·3	67·9	71·1	66·7	26·4	13·8	5·6	13·4	13·1	18·3	41·2	48·6	37·9	32·7	13·7	7·3	8·4	49·2	75·0	51·7	38·3	27·1	20·4	26·7	BRIXWORTH
DAVENTRY ...	51·1	42·0	55·1	57·3	65·9	64·5	68·1	19·4	11·2	12·3	16·4	15·9	12·9	36·3	29·7	25·0	21·6	9·8	12·9	13·2	39·4	49·1	36·2	33·9	26·2	28·8	26·1	DAVENTRY
HARDINGSTONE ...	38·5	29·8	58·0	48·5	47·8	60·5	55·6	48·5	24·5	33·6	37·4	28·4	32·8	42·7	11·3	7·0	10·3	8·1	4·6	4·2	51·1	59·8	31·5	43·9	45·5	33·0	37·0	HARDINGSTONE
KETTERING ...	1·6	2·4	12·6	17·3	25·4	28·8	31·8	32·5	9·4	13·4	15·0	37·1	42·3	84·2	48·2	62·1	57·7	47·4	23·3	16·5	84·2	80·7	71·5	71·1	62·4	60·4	58·8	KETTERING
NORTHAMPTON ...	3·7	4·2	14·0	13·2	21·9	29·9	27·0	48·5	12·8	22·1	28·8	44·8	49·5	74·2	32·9	60·7	54·1	37·8	13·9	13·3	83·3	81·4	73·5	76·2	66·6	58·7	62·8	NORTHAMPTON
OUNDLE ...	82·8	82·4	83·7	85·2	86·7	87·8	80·0	2·3	2·8	3·7	4·7	3·0	5·0	9·0	8·1	5·6	5·1	2·6	3·0	6·7	9·2	10·4	8·4	8·8	7·3	6·0	11·7	OUNDLE
+ PETERBOROUGH ...	84·0	71·3	75·8	77·6	77·5	79·3	77·5	0·8	2·4	2·4	2·4	2·5	3·6	7·6	16·7	11·1	9·1	9·0	9·7	10·5	7·3	17·5	13·5	11·5	11·4	12·2	14·1	PETERBOROUGH
POTTERSPURY ...	58·9	43·3	62·5	57·1	60·1	64·7	67·5	38·0	22·1	27·3	28·4	21·6	24·1	29·2	10·0	5·0	3·8	4·2	7·5	3·4	33·0	48·0	27·1	31·1	32·6	29·1	27·5	POTTERSPURY
THRAPSTON ...	10·9	19·3	39·9	40·8	45·5	48·4	45·8	44·9	42·6	46·5	45·8	39·3	43·5	72·0	26·7	9·2	7·0	3·2	3·7	3·3	79·7	71·6	51·8	53·5	49·0	43·0	46·8	THRAPSTON
TOWCESTER ..	38·9	36·1	52·9	48·1	53·1	49·7	51·5	42·8	20·0	30·5	21·1	22·7	25·1	43·9	10·4	17·3	15·8	16·7	21·1	11·6	50·7	53·2	37·3	46·3	37·8	43·8	36·7	TOWCESTER
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	1·1	2·0	12·2	10·0	16·8	40·3	39·7	43·0	15·3	10·9	9·3	33·7	42·4	82·2	43·1	61·0	67·9	64·3	17·9	9·1	86·4	86·1	76·3	78·8	73·6	51·6	51·5	WELLINGBOROUGH
MEANS ...	25·7	21·4	33·5	34·2	39·7	48·3	47·7	33·3	12·9	15·9	17·9	28·4	32·4	58·4	33·0	41·9	39·8	32·5	14·2	11·2	62·8	66·3	54·8	55·7	50·4	42·6	43·6	

* In the Returns for the years 1893—97 the number of Certificates of Conscientious Objection received in respect of the children born in 1897 has not been included in the Percentages “ Not finally accounted for,” but allowance has been made for these in the “ Total Unvaccinated.”

† The Soke of Peterborough is a County in itself, and I am therefore much indebted to the courtesy of the Clerk of the Peterborough Union for furnishing me with information for the purposes of this table.

N.B.—The Rural Districts of Crick, Oxendon, Gretton, Easton-on-the-Hill, and Middleton Cheney are included in Unions in the Counties of Warwick, Leicester, Rutland, and Oxford, and do not therefore enter into the above Analysis : on the other hand the Unions of Oundle and Thrapston each include a few parishes in Huntingdonshire.

“ ‘ Conscientious objectors.’ 19 children died unvaccinated, “ 3 were postponed, 4 left the district unvaccinated, and 51 “ were not accounted for.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“ Vaccination has been “ more efficiently carried out.”

I desire to express my very cordial acknowledgments to the Clerks of the several Unions of the County, for their courtesy in supplying me with the figures by which I have been enabled to work out the percentages in the accompanying Table.

WATER SUPPLY.

It is very satisfactory to be able to record the continuous progress which is being made in endeavours to adequately supply different localities within the County with wholesome water. In such of the Urban Districts as have not yet completed works of water supply good progress towards that end is being made, in spite of a slip in the bank of the new reservoir of the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Joint Water Board, and some temporary difficulties in the sinking of the deep well at Raunds ; while among the Rural Districts there is a manifest desire in some to improve the conditions in this respect of their more populous villages, as at Duston in the Northampton Rural District, Burton Latimer, Stanion, and Warkton in the Kettering Rural District, and Wilby in the Wellingborough Rural District. The number of other villages which will probably be similarly dealt with in a short time will possibly be greater in another year, owing to the complaints which have of late been made in regard to the quantity and quality of their local well supplies, and to a recognition of the necessity of abundant supplies of water for drain-flushing purposes. There appears also to be some reasonable ground for hope that the tedious proceedings in regard to Long Buckby's Water Scheme, in the Daventry

Rural District, after dragging on through eight years, may really end during the current year in a good and plentiful supply of water to the inhabitants of that place.

The following references to this subject from the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health will be found to compare very favourably with those which I was able to give in my earlier Reports :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“ Water Supply, derived from a
“ deep well, pumped into reservoirs, and supplied through
“ the mains by gravitation is excellent in quality and un-
“ limited in quantity. In the rural district which is included
“ in the bounds of the borough the water supply is derived
“ from shallow wells. I have not heard of any instance of
“ water contamination.”

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ I had hoped in my
“ report this year to have been in a position to note the com-
“ pletion of the work in connection with our new water
“ supply, but, unfortunately, some delay has occurred in
“ consequence of the slipping of some part of the bank of the
“ reservoir. This defect is being repaired, and the Engineer
“ anticipates that in less than six months the reservoir will be
“ in a proper condition to receive the water.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“ During the year 29 additional
“ houses have been supplied with town water, so that there
“ now remain about 200 houses deriving their water for
“ drinking purposes from shallow wells. The Water-Works
“ Well, I regret to state, has not realised the hopes entertained
“ and given expression to in my last annual report, for from
“ data furnished by your Surveyor I note that the depth of
“ the well at the end of the year was ten feet, or eight feet
“ less than it was a twelve month previously. To ensure an
“ increased supply of water no doubt the advice of Mr. Beeby
“ Thompson as to sinking another well in the vicinity of the
“ present one will have to be acted upon.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“ I have to congratulate you on the
 “ completion of the Water Scheme. Many connections have
 “ been made, but the somewhat saline taste of the water is
 “ objected to by some people. . . The saline taste is due
 “ to the large amount of Chloride of Sodium, or common
 “ salt, contained in the water. The amount so contained is
 “ not in the least harmful to health, and will probably vary
 “ from time to time. In using the new water for tea-making,
 “ the water should be used immediately it comes to the boil,
 “ because the longer it boils the salter it will taste, owing to
 “ the evaporation. Another point in connection with tea-
 “ making. The water contains some 3 grains to the pint of
 “ Carbonate of Soda, and so possesses an increased extractive
 “ power on vegetable tissues, such as tea, &c., imparting a
 “ much deeper colour to the infusion. So less tea need be
 “ used to produce a decent-looking infusion than was neces-
 “ sary to produce the same result with the shallower well
 “ water. The presence of this Carbonate of Soda is a good
 “ feature of the water, because it indicates as a rule water
 “ from a deep-seated strata, far removed from sewage and
 “ surface pollution. I feel sure that when more connections
 “ are made to the mains, so that a constant flow is maintained
 “ through them, and when the mains get seasoned, the people
 “ will like the water much better than they do now. Another
 “ grand feature of the water is its exceeding softness. The
 “ saving in soap alone will be very considerable.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The laying of the mains
 “ has been well and expeditiously carried out. The reservoir
 “ is nearly finished ; the engines and pump are now being
 “ put down, and in a few months the scheme will be com-
 “ pleted. Although water of good quality is plentiful in
 “ many parts of the town, most of the wells from which the
 “ water is obtained are, at any time, liable to pollution, and I
 “ would strongly recommend all property owners to lay on
 “ the town supply as soon as possible, so that they and their

“tenants may have all the advantages of pure and wholesome
 “water. Another great benefit to the town of the water
 “scheme when completed will be the regular and thorough
 “flushing of the sewers.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“Several new mains have been
 “laid during the past year. The principal one being a
 “separate 12 in. Pumping Main, 2,000 yards in length, to
 “deliver direct into the service reservoir at Clover Hill, with-
 “out supplying the town *en route*. This enables the pumps
 “at Cransley to run 2 hours longer daily. Another import-
 “ant benefit from this new Main is in the greatly improved
 “means it provides for coping with fires in the town, as a
 “constant supply can now be pumped in, while the distri-
 “buting Mains are under high pressure. A further improve-
 “ment has been the dividing the town into smaller districts
 “for Water Supply, by the insertion of a number of Valves
 “in the Mains, so that, when it is necessary to repair Mains,
 “smaller areas will be affected by the shutting off the Water.
 “Good progress has been made in the construction of the
 “new Reservoir near Thorpe Malsor. The embankment has
 “now reached the height of nearly 25 feet, the culvert com-
 “pleted, and the various other works in connection are well
 “in hand. The necessary diversion of the Loddington Sewage
 “has been completed, and the 15-inch Delivery Main from
 “the Thorpe Malsor Reservoir to the Cransley Reservoir,
 “about 2 miles in length, is also finished.” The Sanitary
 Inspector also reports that 7 wells were closed, in which the
 water was found to be contaminated.

OUNDLE URBAN.—“This continues to be excellent in
 “quality and quantity.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—Following on the report in the pre-
 vious year as to the prospective sinking of a well for the
 purposes of a Public Water Supply, sanction to a loan for the

project was given by the Local Government Board in due course. “The work was therefore begun on the 23rd September, 1904, and has been going on steadily since that date. “The contractors have reached a depth of 101 feet, at which “depth they have tapped a stream in a vein in the Upper “Lias Clay which is very troublesome. This stream is not “considered sufficient for a town supply, nor is it at the depth “at which we expect to find a proper water supply for the “District. Measures in the meantime are therefore being “taken to shut off this water, after which the work of sinking to the Marlstone will proceed.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“We are fortunate in the possession “of a splendid water supply, the quality of the water being “entirely satisfactory. This has been laid on all over the “town, so that there is now no excuse for any house being “without an ample supply of water, both for drinking and “household purposes. ”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“Two samples of water have been “examined, one of which was satisfactory, the other recommended to be boiled before being used. The new water “works are being carried on as expeditiously as possible, and “when completed the town of Rushden will be admirably “supplied with good water.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The water supply is “from public service. In nature it is well-water, containing “Lime and Iron, free from pollution, being pumped from the “wells, softened, filtered, and stored in closed locked Reservoirs. There has always been a plentiful supply, but often “there has been too much white sediment which after the “softening process is deposited in the pipes from the reservoir. This inconvenient state requires remedying by “flushing the main pipes frequently.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—Though the district mainly derives its water supply from shallow wells, “the absence of cases of water-borne disease speaks for the quality of the supply, and the amount has been satisfactory except in a few cases towards the close of the year when springs became low.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“New water supplies have been found for several houses, and water has been laid on to the whole of Creaton village as far as the stand-pipes go. Brixworth New Cottages have only a short supply. Most of the villages are supplied by surface wells.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“The Long Buckby Water Scheme has advanced satisfactorily during the year, most of the mains are now down, and before very long the town will have a good and plentiful supply of wholesome water. On January 1st I attended at Badby a Local Government Board Inquiry regarding the loan of £1,000 for a Water Supply to the village; the scheme was, however, not approved of by the Local Government Board, and there is difficulty in obtaining another site. I think, however, that the matter ought not to be postponed indefinitely, but that in the coming year something more ought to be done.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“The water supply in the case of Easton is from a spring of excellent quality, which is conducted through the village. Collyweston and Duddington obtain theirs from wells.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The Denton supply, which was opened last year, has proved quite satisfactory, and is now about to be laid on to the schools, which will render them much more efficient from a sanitary point of view. The plans for supplying Brafield with water are now in the hands of Mr. Green, and are being carried out but are not yet finished; a considerable time seems to have been wasted over this small scheme, and it ought before this to

“ have been in working order. The water supply at Harding-
 “ stone still proves very efficient, and there have been no
 “ complaints this summer of shortness of water at Wootton
 “ since the new pumps have been erected.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“ There have been considerable
 “ difficulties as to Water Supply ; in fact in many of the
 “ villages and at several lodges, standing alone, the water
 “ supply has been very short. The new supply provided last
 “ year at Stanion has proved insufficient, and a further supply
 “ must be found. Warkton has been very short of water, but
 “ a scheme has been proposed to supply this village, by an
 “ arrangement with the Urban Council, with water from the
 “ Kettering sources.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“ The Water Supply
 throughout the District is good. There has been no complaint
 as to permanent shortness or pollution received during the
 ‘ past year. It has, however, been found necessary to repair
 “ the water-works at Lower Boddington, and considerable
 “ improvements have been made with the supply at Chipping
 “ Warden.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“ The water supply at Duston
 “ has been a cause of much anxiety to the Council during the
 “ year. When the fatal case of enteric fever already spoken of
 “ happened, the water supply of that house was analysed, and
 “ also the water supply of most of the cottages at this end of the
 “ village, the wells were all found to be highly contaminated,
 “ and they were all ordered to be closed. As, till the last two
 “ or three years, when the village drainage scheme was taken
 “ in hand, all the sewage of the village was discharged into a
 “ stone drain running down the main road of the village, I
 “ fear that the ground for some distance round the drain has
 “ become thoroughly contaminated with sewage, which gets
 “ washed into the wells after every rainfall. The Council

“ have held many meetings during the year, and have also
 “ conferred with the Parish Council, and have rightly con-
 “ sidered that a pure supply of water must be procured. They
 “ first endeavoured to come to terms with the Northampton
 “ Town Council to supply this village with water, but, on
 “ account of the difference in levels, this scheme has fallen
 “ through, and the town have now definitely refused to
 “ undertake it. A scheme has been drawn up by Mr. Beeby
 “ Thompson and is now under consideration, but at present
 “ has not advanced beyond a very early stage. The water
 “ supply at Kislingbury and Heyford still proves very satis-
 “ factory, and is a great boon to those villages.”

OUNDLE RURAL.—“ Six samples of water were brought
 “ to me to be tested, two of which were condemned as unfit
 “ for drinking.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“ The water supply of the district
 “ has proved generally satisfactory throughout with the
 “ exception of Braybrooke, where there has still been a
 “ deficiency, and, though considerable trouble has been taken
 “ to provide a fresh source, the supply has not been found to
 “ be really good though there are signs of improvement.
 “ Braybrooke, for a village of its size with 269 inhabitants,
 “ is badly off for sufficient water supply, and what there is is
 “ not conveniently situated. There is one available source
 “ where there are apparently some good springs ; which, with
 “ an efficient pump and tower provided, would give a con-
 “ tinuous supply at good pressure to the whole village, though
 “ such a provision might be somewhat costly. Various
 “ samples of water have been examined throughout the dis-
 “ trict, and with the exception of four have been found to be
 “ good, and the exceptions seemed to be due to remediable
 “ conditions. All pumps and taps and well surroundings
 “ have been kept in efficient order.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“ The remarks contained in the
 “ report for 1900 still hold good, viz. :—‘ Wicken and Deans-
 “ ‘ hanger have public water supplies of good quality, the rest
 “ ‘ of the district is dependent on shallow wells, more or less
 “ ‘ exposed to contamination, but the opposition of small
 “ ‘ owners and ratepayers to any scheme involving much
 “ ‘ expense prevents the general adoption of a public water
 “ ‘ supply in all parts.’ ”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—“ I wish again to draw attention
 “ to the need of an efficient water supply to Thrapston. Your
 “ Inspector reports that many houses have had no water
 “ supply this summer, and that there are a number of water
 “ closets without any water to flush them. I would suggest
 “ that he be asked to make a complete report upon the
 “ matter, and that an analysis be made of the water from the
 “ public wells. The cost to the ratepayers of a water supply
 “ would not be, in my opinion, very heavy, as a considerable
 “ number of inhabitants would have it laid on to their
 “ houses. . . It is now some twelve years since I first
 “ drew your attention to the necessity of providing a good
 “ water supply for Brigstock ; at that time I ascertained that
 “ if Carbolic Acid was poured into the drains it could be
 “ immediately tasted in the nearest wells. An analysis made
 “ by your direction showed that three-fourths of the public
 “ wells were contaminated by sewage matter. A public water
 “ supply scheme was taken in hand, and, I am glad to say, is
 “ now completed. The water has been laid on to almost all
 “ the properties in the place. The general acceptance proves
 “ the need that existed, and also shows how opposition ceases
 “ directly the improvement is made. Mr. Steward, who has
 “ taken so much interest in the matter, informs me that the
 “ expense to the ratepayers will really be very small, he puts
 “ it at about £30 a year ; this of course is owing to the inhabi-
 “ tants having had the water laid on almost as soon as it was
 “ ready. Some of the land purchased for the waterworks

“has been sold. I hope due care will be taken not to have
 “dwelling-houses erected which could in any way con-
 “tamine the well. . . Mr. Lloyd states that the water
 “supply of Woodford continues to be satisfactory, but an
 “absence of wind to work the motor pump will produce a
 “short supply.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“The Towcester water supply
 “from Dockwell Mill reservoir was for some months in-
 “adequate, necessitating work at the pumping station in
 “Towcester, and, as always happens when this has to be
 “done, the water was unsightly from minute particles of clay
 “held in suspension. The question of a water supply for
 “Lichborough is still in abeyance.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“Wilby has been short of
 “water, but the Parish Council are taking measures to ensure
 “a sufficient supply. Irchester is supplied from wells which
 “are polluted and unfit for domestic use. The Council have
 “spent £70 in repairing a well ; still, on analysis, the water
 “was unfit for use, evidently from polluted soil at its
 “source. Owing to the construction of large reservoirs it is
 “becoming a great difficulty in obtaining a sufficient supply
 “for some of the villages, and must, I fear, become a serious
 “matter in the future. Several samples of water have been
 “examined, many of which have been condemned as unfit
 “for use, while in others the wells have been cleaned and
 “cemented with satisfactory results.”

DWELLING-HOUSES AND OVERCROWDING.

There appears to be no diminution in endeavours to prevent overcrowding of small houses and to secure the provision of an altogether better class of cottage property. The achievements in these directions are necessarily greater in the Urban than in the Rural Districts ; but constant attention to the subject in many of the latter is obviously

beginning to produce better results. I am glad to be able to note that the regular recurring representations of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Brackley have secured some satisfactory action being taken in regard to houses which, in his opinion, were unfit for human habitation ; but in that small Borough, as in so many of the purely Rural Districts, the difficulty prevails of supplying new cottages in the place of old ones at a cost which is remunerative to the builder, having regard to the rate of wages prevailing in the locality. The rate of progress in this respect is, and must be, slow in the present condition of things ; but, as I have repeatedly pointed out, much may be done to mitigate the immediate pressure by the more constant insistence on the timely carrying out of small repairs so that defects are not allowed to grow in magnitude. Neglect of such action can only result in increasingly defective cottages coming within the category of those which are described as unfit for human habitation. House to house inspections, regularly continued, are the best means for ascertaining the requirements of cottage property, and, in this respect, I would point out the course which is adopted to this end in the Brixworth Rural District as most commendable, and one which should be more generally followed.

The following references to these matters in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health are of interest, and well worthy of attention :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“ In my last Annual Report I
 “ referred to this subject at some length and subsequently
 “ furnished you with a list of houses which I considered
 “ unfit for human habitation. I have now to report that
 “ some of these houses have been repaired, but in all the worst
 “ cases nothing has been done, and I cannot see that it would
 “ be profitable to spend money on these cottages ; they should
 “ be demolished. I am pleased to report that quite a number

“ of new cottages have been built and are all occupied. I am
 “ informed that it is impossible to put up cottages here, which
 “ will comply with the bye-laws, at a lower rental than 5/- or
 “ 5/6 a week ; it is therefore difficult to see how the occupants
 “ of condemned houses can be re-housed. These people earn
 “ (say) 12/- a week, and they pay at present a rent of (say)
 “ 1/6. It is manifestly absurd to expect them to pay a rental
 “ of 5/- and support a family on 12/- a week.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The small number of houses,
 “ viz. : nine, erected during the year is much to be regretted,
 “ especially when the requirements of a growing district such
 “ as this are considered, besides the scarcity of house accom-
 “ modation makes it difficult to deal satisfactorily at all times
 “ with over-crowding in families. There were six cases of
 “ over-crowding brought to the notice of the Sanitary Com-
 “ mittee, and, thanks to the determination of the Council to
 “ do its duty, all these nuisances were abated. It cannot be
 “ too strongly emphasised that in matters of this kind the
 “ action of a Sanitary Authority necessarily tends to safe-
 “ guard the public health, and to protect those immediately
 “ concerned from the physical and moral evils inseparable
 “ from a condition of habitual over-crowding.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“ One case of overcrowding was
 “ reported and remedied.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—According to the Sanitary
 Inspector, “ 7 new dwellings have been erected during the
 “ year ; 16 have been cleaned and put in repair ; 1 case of
 “ overcrowding and 3 filthy dwellings have been dealt with.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“ No dwelling-house has during
 “ the past year been condemned as unfit for habitation” ; but
 one case of overcrowding appears to have occurred.

OUNDLE URBAN.—In regard to overcrowding, “there have been no cases reported. With Mr. Todd, I visited Latham’s Hospital, North Street, in March. It was in a very inhygienic state, better ventilation and whitewashing being badly required. This has since been done, and the building put in as good order as is possible, considering its age and original construction.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“On the whole, house accommodation is very good, and the old insanitary cottages are being gradually replaced by new ones, and the sooner the worst of the old ones now left can be done away with the better it will be for those now occupying them. A very great improvement has been made in Marshall’s Road by the building of 40 new cottages there by Mr. R. Coggins near the Nene Works, almost all of which are now occupied. They are an ornament to the place, and being situated in the healthiest part of Raunds there is no doubt they will add to the health and comfort of those who occupy them.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“The house accommodation in the town is very good, no dwelling having been condemned as unfit for habitation. In one case of overcrowding action was taken, and the nuisance remedied.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—There was no case of overcrowding, and “plans have been passed during the year for 4 new houses, 5 alterations and enlargements, and 1 new Wesleyan Chapel.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“12 new cottages have been built during the year ; but many more all over the district are urgently needed, as the house accommodation is generally inadequate. Very many are structurally bad, and have but one bedroom or two small ones. 25 cases of overcrowding have been reported during the last year ; in many

“the nuisance was abated, but in some it was found impossible to get other houses for the inmates. House to house inspections have been made in 21 villages ; many nuisances have been reported on and abated. 4 cottages have been closed as unfit for habitation in Spratton ; 2 have been renovated and re-opened.”

CRICK RURAL.—“Only one new house has been erected.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“One house in Badby I pronounced dirty and not habitable ; but was unable to get the house repaired, or the owner to leave, until the case was taken before the Daventry magistrates and the owner convicted.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“With a falling population, there is adequate house accommodation, and the formation of the ground prevents insufficiency of air-space about houses. There is no supervision over the erection of new houses.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“Three new cottages have been erected at Cogenhoe, seven at Hardingstone, two at Hackleton, two at Horton, two at Yardley Hastings, and one at Roade. One dilapidated cottage has been condemned and closed at Yardley Hastings. One case of overcrowding has been dealt with at Milton.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“The homes of the working classes are distinctly poor, with few conveniences, and consisting of chiefly antiquated structures. Many are in a bad state of repair, although I am not aware that there are any actually unfit for habitation, neither have any been declared to be permanently so during the past year. Generally speaking there is a sufficiency of open space around them, and there has been no case of overcrowding reported in the District. No new houses have been erected.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“One bad case of overcrowding at Duston has been dealt with, and the people have now removed into the town.”

OUNCLE RURAL.—“I was asked to report upon a house in this village”—Yarwell—“and condemned it as unfit for habitation.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“The House Accommodation as regards the working classes is very good and comfortable as a rule. There is a sufficiency of air space about the houses. Only one house has been erected during the year, and no case of insanitary dwelling reported, and only one case of overcrowding which was promptly rectified.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“A case of overcrowding and houses unfit for habitation at Paulers Pury were reported, and steps taken to rectify the same.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—At Thrapston, “I visited the School, which is admitted to be overcrowded, there being 50 children more than there is room for, even taking the 8 foot scale. I consider that many of the children are anæmic and are suffering from the effects of over-crowding. The County Council are quite aware of this fact, and have the matter under their consideration. Even if they were to start erecting additional accommodation at once, it would take some time before new buildings could be erected. I consider the matter is urgent, and that some temporary arrangement should be made by hiring a building, in order that the health of the children should not suffer.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that “twelve new houses have been erected during the year—10 Wollaston, 1 Wilby, 1 Mears Ashby, and water certificates granted. 29 dwellings cleaned and put in repair, 4 dilapidated ones abolished, 5 overcrowding cases and 7

“filthy dwellings dealt with. In June, Wm. Bullbrick, of “Bozeat, was sentenced to 21 days’ imprisonment for not “abating nuisance, ‘Filthy dwelling.’ House is now closed.”

EXCREMENT AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

I am unable to record any fresh scheme for the effective destruction of refuse by heat than those referred to in my last Annual Report. The schemes at Kettering and Wellingborough appear to be acting satisfactorily, and without giving rise to serious nuisance. I wish that the example of these two Districts was being followed by other of the Urban Districts of the County, and trust that their Councils will give this matter further and fuller consideration than they have hitherto done. From the economic point of view, there is much to be said in favour of the production of useful clinker and the generation of power through the utilisation of house refuse instead of allowing it to be tipped into hollows or holes in the ground. Ground so made up is unfit for building purposes, and in extending urban districts especially this may be a matter of some moment. The disposal of refuse on a fixed system is of course less easy in scattered rural districts, but I am strongly of opinion that the collection and disposal of house-refuse in all places as populous as Thrapston ought to be in the hands of the local council. When the disposal is left in the hands of the individual occupiers of property, it is very apt to be allowed to accumulate in unsuitable localities, and to be got rid of at unduly prolonged intervals and in very haphazard fashion. The fact that there is no system of public scavenging at Thrapston has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the District Council by the Medical Officer of Health, and I hope that some measures will be taken to rectify this matter and to dispose of the collected refuse in a suitable and satisfactory manner.

The following are among the more important references to this subject in the Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“House Refuse is removed by
“the Councils’ carts.”

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“The general cleanliness
“of the town has been maintained, and the important work
“of scavenging has, I believe, been carried out in a satis-
“factory manner.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“At the end of July the
“Council, having previously given notice to all concerned to
“have their closets connected with the sewer, discontinued
“the practice of having the night soil collected. This action
“has afforded satisfactory results both from a sanitary as also
“from a financial point of view. There now remains only a
“comparatively insignificant number of cases where the pails
“are in vogue, and for which those responsible will no doubt
“soon see the wisdom of substituting the better water-carriage
“system.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“One hundred and forty-one closets
“have been connected with the sewer, and it is to be hoped
“that now we have a plentiful supply of water for flushing
“purposes that those still unconnected will soon be so.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The Scavengers have
“done their work fairly well throughout the year, but I think
“they might exercise a little more care in emptying the refuse-
“boxes into the cart, as ashes are often left on the pavement.
“I would suggest that they be asked to sweep up as they go
“along. The properties where cess-pits are still in use should
“be connected with the sewer as soon as possible.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“The Refuse Destructor was
“formally started in May last, at the same time as the Electric
“Light Station, in connection with which it works, and has
“satisfactorily disposed of the House Refuse ever since. Its
“capacity, as guaranteed by the makers (Messrs. Meldrum

“ Bros.), is 25 tons of refuse in 24 hours, or 17 tons in 16
 “ hours ; and this was considerably exceeded in the official
 “ test, when 18 tons 17 cwts. of refuse were destroyed in $10\frac{1}{2}$
 “ hours. The total amount of House Refuse, at present,
 “ amounts to 100 tons per week. The complete destruction
 “ of all refuse, and reduction of noxious fumes, is ensured by
 “ the high temperature maintained without difficulty in the
 “ Combustion Chamber. When the site for the Destructor
 “ was selected, which is almost in the centre of the town,
 “ many fears were expressed that it would give rise to serious
 “ nuisance. These fears have, so far, proved groundless ; no
 “ complaints having arisen, either of smell from the
 “ Destructor, or dust from the chimney, and the reduction of
 “ the cost of carting the refuse, and the economy derived from
 “ the use of the steam generated in the Destructor boiler for the
 “ production of Electricity, have fully justified the choice of
 “ this site.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“ The scavenging of the town seems
 “ to be carried out in a very satisfactory manner by your own
 “ workmen, and during the year there has been no cause for
 “ complaint in this matter.” The Sanitary Inspector reports :
 —“ 71 pail closets have been converted into water closets.
 “ 17 insanitary ashpits have been abolished and a great
 “ number of galvanised dustbins provided to houses without
 “ receptacles for receiving house refuse. 2 defective and
 “ dangerous cesspools have been abolished.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“ The refuse is at present removed
 “ by public scavengers, who go round the town with a cart at
 “ stated times and collect it from boxes set outside the doors.
 “ This system is somewhat unsatisfactory, as the boxes are
 “ unsightly, and, moreover, in windy weather bits of paper
 “ and other refuse are apt to get blown about the streets. I
 “ would recommend that the boxes remain in the back yards,
 “ and that the scavengers remove them to the carts and
 “ replace them in the yards when emptied.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“Several privies have been put on the water carriage system. There are still a good number on the pail system, which will be considerably reduced when the adequate supply of water can be obtained.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“House refuse is removed weekly and destroyed by incineration. I would again strongly recommend the removal oftener if possible during the summer months.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“I cannot observe that there is any improvement in the disposal of house refuse and excrement. Being an agricultural neighbourhood, with a large percentage of poor people amongst the population, it is practically impossible for them either to obtain or utilise any other method of disposing of their house refuse except in the garden or on the land, and excrement in covered-in ashpits and privy vaults.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“The removal and disposal of House Refuse is done by the private owners, and I have not observed any want of care in these details, indeed, I rarely come across any want of cleanliness in these respects, the premises surrounding cottage properties being generally well cared for.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“The district being an agricultural one, house refuse, &c., is generally disposed of in gardens or on the land, but pail closets are increasing in certain localities, namely, Potterspury, Cosgrove, and Old Stratford, and are emptied by the public scavenger.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—Attention is again drawn to the fact “that there is no public scavenging nor any place where rubbish can be deposited” at Thrapston.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

It will be seen from the extracts of the Reports, herewith submitted, that a good deal of attention is now being paid to questions of Sewage Disposal in several of the Districts of the County. I have already briefly summarised the action which has been taken during the year in an earlier portion of this report; but the following facts serve as a convenient supplement to those remarks :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“Sewerage and Drainage in the town is universal, has worked well, and has given no trouble. Efficient flushing of the drains is carried out when and where required, but, owing to the favourable conformation of the site of the town, the sewers have generally a good fall and consequently require little flushing. In the rural portion of the district, sewage disposal is by cesspool and privy.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“Owing to the unsatisfactory state of the Union Street Sewer it has had to be scraped periodically. Indeed, the bad fall of this sewer will necessitate its early relaying. The flushing of the sewers has been well attended to, 2,237 loads of water having been used for this purpose by means of the hose and cart. It is very gratifying to have to record the improved ventilation of the public sewers, one 9-inch and seventeen 6-inch ventilators having been erected during the year; besides, as the action of your Surveyor, a considerable number of house drains have been provided with proper ventilators. All this added sewer and drain ventilation cannot fail to have a most beneficial effect upon the health of the district. A storm-water sewer has been laid down which will prevent any nuisance arising in connection with the out-fall sewer.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“Several extensions of the sewer have been made during the year, and the scheme

“is now complete for the time being. A good many properties have been connected with the sewer, but progress has been rather slow of late, but now that the water scheme is nearing completion, when proper, regular, and systematic flushing will be made, I hope connections will go on much more rapidly. A great many complaints have been made of offensive smells from some of the manholes. As I pointed out to the Council, this was no doubt due to the want of regular flushing, and I am glad to be able to report that since the regular weekly flushing was commenced the nuisance has considerably abated. Manholes are intended to act as air inlets, and certainly should not, as has been done, be covered over with iron plates. In my report of last year I recommended the Council to erect ventilating shafts in certain parts of the town ; this has not been done, and they are still much needed.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“The whole of the remaining osiers at the Sewage Disposal Works have been removed, the commencement of which was reported in the last Annual Report, and additional subsoil drains laid over the area. The ground has been thoroughly cleaned, and new Grips formed, and the Sewage effluent, which has been fairly good throughout the year, will, no doubt, be further improved. The Filters have worked continuously throughout the year, and done their work well ; they have now been working for six years.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“The sewerage and drainage of the town is excellent. I have frequently visited the Sewage Farm, and find it in good order.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—The Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor reports :—“During the year a further portion of land was laid out at the outfall works and the osier beds extended. It is intended this year to prepare the remaining

“portion of land not yet prepared for the treatment of
“sewage.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“The drainage of the town is satis-
“factory, and the Sewage farm well managed.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The drainage of the town
“is good. The sewage is treated by Broad Irrigation at the
“Sewage farm.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—“The sewer in course of con-
“struction at Croughton at the close of the previous year has
“been completed. A new sewer has been laid in Red Lion
“Street at Kings Sutton, and sewers have been repaired at
“Sulgrave and Evenley.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“New ventilating shafts have
“been erected at East Haddon, Holdenby, and Moulton. I
“trust that during the present year more attention may be
“paid to this department, *i.e.*, the proper ventilation of
“sewers. New gullies have been put in at East Haddon, and
“new manholes to sewers at Holdenby and Moulton. The
“village of Church Brampton is to be sewered this year at a
“cost of £600. As there is a capital water supply there, I
“hope that in every case water will be laid on to the w.c.’s,
“which would bring Church Brampton up to the level of
“Chapel Brampton—one of the best villages as far as sanitary
“arrangements go in the district. New automatic flushing
“syphons have been fixed to Brington sewers. Plans have
“been made and accepted for new Filter Beds at Scaldwell.
“Connections to sewers at Creaton are nearly finished. I
“strongly recommend that water be connected with the
“w.c.’s.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“A Filter Bed was put in at Badby
“to prevent the pollution of the River Nene. Schemes for
“preventing river pollution from Weedon and Flore are still

“under consideration, I would urge that these be pressed forward as in places the pollution is serious.”

GRETTON RURAL.—“With a view to protecting wells from contamination, about 180 yards of new sewer is being laid at Gretton in lieu of stone sewers which have heretofore done duty. A number of new drains have been laid on premises heretofore undrained, and trapped gullies have in several instances been substituted for insanitary catch-pits.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“The main sewage scheme for Yardley Hastings has been completed, the old cesspools have been abolished, and the pumping apparatus to pump the water on the land is at work. All the private drains, however, have not yet been connected with the main drain, and at my visit early last month the brook was still in a most filthy state. There are many complaints also about the smell from this sewer, and in my opinion more ventilators of a larger calibre will have to be introduced. The sewage farm at Brafield has been working well, and there are no complaints now about the smells in the village since more ventilators have been provided. At Cogenhoe a septic tank has been constructed from plans by Messrs. Sharman and Archer, of Wellingborough, at present it seems working satisfactorily, and it is hoped that it will meet the requirements of the County Council in preventing the pollution of the river which previously happened. Speaking for myself I am pleased to see that your Council are adopting the plan of septic tanks; I believe they are more scientific, will prove more efficient and more economical than the present irrigation farms. I have visited the fellmongering business at Rush Mills with Mr. Paget during the year. We found storm sewage still polluting the river, and advised a small irrigation plot with under drainage to be laid out so as to take off the storm water and excess of sewage. Other building operations have been carried out here and a road has

“ been constructed, altogether a great improvement has been
 “ made and the smells that were formerly so noticeable from
 “ these works have been much less intense. In consequence
 “ of complaints about the smell from the sewers, extra venti-
 “ lators have been erected in the villages of Milton, Harding-
 “ stone, and Roade, and these have effected much improvement
 “ in this respect. It is a great pity that Surveyors do not put
 “ in such ventilators as part of their scheme, as they are
 “ absolutely necessary.”

KETTERING RURAL.—“ The alterations at Geddington
 “ with regard to the drainage have proved satisfactory, and
 “ the condition of the brook below the village, by the marked
 “ improvement in the effluent, is worthy of notice. The
 “ Burton Latimer Drainage Scheme has been completed, but
 “ it would have proved a greater success had the water supply
 “ been successfully carried out before or at the same time as
 “ the new sewers were laid.” The Surveyor also reports as
 follows :—“ Loddington Sewage has been dealt with by the
 “ Urban Council, and at the present time an intercepting tank
 “ is being put in in accordance with the wishes of the County
 “ Council. Orton, Warkton, and Rushton Sewage will also be
 “ intercepted as above in a few months. Broughton Sewage
 “ Scheme has passed the inquiry stage, and will probably
 “ commence shortly. New drainage has been laid at
 “ Broughton, Corby, Rushton, and Cottingham.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“ I have nothing to
 “ report as to any alteration concerning the disposal of sewage
 “ and refuse in the District, there being no regular sewage
 “ system connected with either accumulation or removal.
 “ The Main Sewers have, however, worked satisfactorily,
 “ although it was found necessary to again repair those in
 “ Upper Boddington and Middleton Cheney.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“ The sewage scheme at Duston
 “ seems to be working fairly well, though at times the smell

“ from the irrigation plot is said to be offensive. I have
 “ advised that the land should be somewhat levelled, so that
 “ the effluent can flow more freely over it, and when this is
 “ done much of the nuisance will, I believe, be avoided. I
 “ still think that some more efficient ventilating shafts will
 “ have to be provided for this village before the nuisance
 “ arising from the smells at the different drains can be over-
 “ come. The effluent from the Bugbrooke septic tank is now
 “ good, and the pollution of the river that was caused by the
 “ drainage from the village has been remedied to the satisfac-
 “ tion of the County Authorities. Complaints from the
 “ same Authorities have been received concerning the drain-
 “ age of Harpole, and will probably have to be met in the
 “ same way, as it seems much more inexpensive than any
 “ other plan yet devised.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“ The Drainage of the District has
 “ received every attention, and all parts have been kept under
 “ observation, and cleaned out where required. A new
 “ sewer extension has been laid at Stoke, and the outfall
 “ carried away from the village. The Sewage work at
 “ Welford, under the consideration of the Council at the end
 “ of 1903, has been completed, and began working in Decem-
 “ ber. It consists of large settling tanks and a 12-in. sewer ;
 “ and the outfall into the river Avon has been duly cleaned
 “ out. Taking the drainage of the district as a whole it may
 “ be considered to be in an efficient state, the larger villages
 “ have their settling tanks, which are emptied and disinfected
 “ every quarter, whilst properties not connected with the
 “ public systems are also supervised and cleaned out as
 “ required. All sewers and outfalls receive special attention,
 “ and are kept cleaned. The general attention to ensure good
 “ drainage and water supplies are large and essential factors
 “ in the general health and comfort of the several localities.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—“No connections have been made
 “to the sewerage system in Ringstead. I think this is a
 “matter which should have immediate attention.” In regard
 to Stanwick, “the main sewers in this village are about com-
 “pleted. I hope no time will be lost in making connections.
 “ . . . Plans to deal with the sewage of this village”—
 Woodford—“have been laid before you and approved.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“The Towcester Sewage Farm
 “continues to work satisfactorily.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—“New drains have been
 “laid at Sywell Grange, Wilby Hall, Wollaston, and Bozeat.
 “Three new closets have been constructed at Wollaston and
 “Earls Barton. Sewage schemes at Isham, Wilby, and Mears
 “Ashby are under consideration. The sewage farm was in a
 “very unsatisfactory state when inspected in May last at Earls
 “Barton and Great Doddington. They were at once remedied
 “and are now in a satisfactory condition. New drainage and
 “sewage farm have been completed at Irchester and are
 “working well.”

RIVER POLLUTION.

References under this heading, not already dealt with
 under other sections of this report, are the following :—

RAUNDS URBAN.—“The Raunds Brook has greatly im-
 “proved since the new sewer came into operation and the bad
 “smells from that source are, we hope, almost a thing of the
 “past—at any rate there was little to complain of during the
 “year.”

OUNDLE RURAL.—“I again drew your attention to the
 “foul state of Barnwell Brook which runs down the centre
 “of the village, and receives most of the drainage ; it is in
 “fact an open sewer, smelling very much in summer. I

“ascertained that certain persons were in the habit of gathering watercress and other plants resembling it, and offering the same for sale at Oundle, Higham Ferrers, and other towns in the neighbourhood. I consider this practice is disgusting and dangerous to health.”

LODGING-HOUSES.

What few common lodging-houses there are in the County, appear from the following references to be watched and kept well-regulated :—

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“Regularly inspected and the occupiers required to keep them in proper sanitary condition.”

KETTERING URBAN.—“The only Licensed Lodging House in the district has been always found, when inspected, in a satisfactory condition, and with the exception of 1 case of Diphtheria has been free from all kinds of infectious disease ; it appears to have been always conducted in a proper manner in all respects.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports, “I have visited the lodging-house in Thrapston regularly, and found it to be clean and well-conducted.”

It also appears from the Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Potterspury Rural District that the lodging-house there has been regularly inspected, and that there was no complaint regarding it.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are rather more references to the subject of the Slaughter-houses in the several districts of the county than usual, and I hope that this fact may be taken as indicative of increased vigilance. Generally the records as to slaughter-

houses have amounted to little more than that they, and other places required to be supervised, have been visited and approved ; but the supervision of the meat supply of a community is hardly a matter to be regarded as a mere formality. The following are the principal records for the past year :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“ All found satisfactory.”

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“ Regularly inspected, and the “ occupiers required to keep them in proper sanitary condition.”

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“ The slaughter-houses “ have been regularly inspected and, in all cases, found clean and satisfactory.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“ As the outcome of inspections “ of the Slaughter-houses fault has had to be found in reference to only one, which on several occasions has called for “ the intervention of your Inspector in order to promote that “ state of sanitation so essential to an establishment of the “ character in question.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“ The five slaughter-houses have also “ been regularly inspected.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ These have been inspected several times throughout the year, and found “ satisfactory.”

OUNCLE URBAN.—“ These have been regularly inspected “ and found clean and in good order.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“ The Rules and Regulations regarding Slaughter Houses have been well carried out, and “ everything connected with them so far as cleanliness is “ concerned is all that can be desired.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“ These have been visited from
“ time to time and have been found in a satisfactory con-
“ dition.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“ Have been visited during the year
“ at intervals.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The Slaughter-houses
“ have been visited throughout the year, and the condition on
“ the whole has been very fair. Complaints were made in
“ two or three cases at the mode of removal of the offal, but
“ the effect of the Notices issued by the Council has been very
“ good, so much so that all the offal at every slaughter-house
“ in the District is removed directly after each killing. In
“ cases where improvements were necessary they have been
“ properly done, and if the regulations are carried out con-
“ tinually there does not seem to be any necessity for a
“ Public Slaughter-house for the Urban District of Welling-
“ borough.” This last opinion is apparently based only on
the contingency of the regulations being properly carried
out ; it is, therefore, to be hoped that there will be no
relaxation, but rather increased watchfulness, in the super-
vision of the slaughter-houses at Wellingborough.

BRACKLEY RURAL.—The slaughter-houses in this dis-
trict are said to be “ generally satisfactory.”

CRICK RURAL.—“ These have been inspected, and gener-
“ ally found in good order.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“ Have been inspected.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—With one exception,
the slaughter-houses were found in a very satisfactory con-
dition. “ The exception referred to applies to a slaughter-
“ house at Upper Boddington, which the landlord will have
“ either put in proper repair or done away with completely.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that the Slaughter-houses are in a fair condition.

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that the “slaughter-houses have been regularly “inspected, and, with two exceptions, were found well kept “and clean ; those referred to are now satisfactory.”

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS.

I have already referred to the important subject of the inspection of dairy cattle by a qualified veterinary surgeon. I herewith append the report referred to therein ; but I am glad to be able to record no lapse of watchfulness over the condition of the places where cattle may be stored or their milk exposed for sale.

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—Referring to milk-shops, “there “are four registered, all in good condition.”

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“Regularly inspected, and the “occupiers required to keep them in proper sanitary con- “dition.”

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“The dairies, milk shops, “and cowsheds have been visited and found in a proper “condition.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“As the result of inspections “of the Dairies and Cowsheds one dairy was found to be “dirty, damp, and dark, and on prompt action being taken “by your Inspector immediate and decided improvement “was effected, otherwise these places required no interference “on the part of your officers.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“The Dairies and Cowsheds have “been regularly inspected, and the demands of the Inspector “in all cases satisfied.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“These have been inspected several times throughout the year, and found satisfactory.”

KETTERING URBAN AND RURAL, AND DESBOROUGH AND ROTHWELL URBAN.—Report of the Inspector, (Mr. Trevor Spencer) :—

“I beg to state that during the past year I have made Inspections of premises occupied by Cow Keepers to the number of 286, and an individual examination, with especial regard to the condition of their udders, of 1731 Milking Cows.

“In regard to the Sanitary state of the Cowsheds inspected, the following conditions were found to prevail :—

“ Good or Satisfactory in	...	243 cases
“ Unsatisfactory or Bad in	...	29 „
“ Relinquished Business during the year	14	„
		—
“ Total		286
		—

“It will be seen therefore that the sanitary conditions of the Cowsheds during the year was unsatisfactory or bad in rather more than 10 cases per cent. of inspections made.

“The several grounds on which cause for complaint has been met with have been, sheds structurally unsuitable and insanitary (16 cases) or for one or more of the following reasons in 39 cases, viz., absence of sufficient light, lime-washing, want of cleanliness, improper drainage, insufficient ventilation, or the too close proximity of swine.

“The question of Water Supply which, on the whole, has always been unsatisfactory, has been, owing to the small rainfall, particularly so during most of the year. I

“ regret to say that the important matter of a constant supply
 “ of good water, as prescribed by the Regulations, has had in
 “ most cases to remain a dead letter, the difficulties in the
 “ way of providing the same being often insurmountable.

“ A separate inspection of every Cow contributing to the
 “ Milk Supply, and with especial regard to the condition of
 “ its udder, has been made with the following results, viz. :—

“ No. of Cows inspected	...	1731
“ No. of normal udders	...	1665
“ No. of abnormal udders	...	66 or 3·81 %
		<hr/>
		1731
		<hr/>

“ Of the 66 abnormal udders, 11 only, or ·64 per cent. of the
 “ whole, were in a state calculated to render the milk harmful
 “ to persons consuming it in an uncooked state, owing to the
 “ following conditions, viz. :—

“ Acute mastitis	...	6 cases.
“ Tubercular mastitis	...	2 „
“ Udder eruptions	...	3 „
		<hr/>
		11 „
		<hr/>

“ The remaining 55, or 3·17 per cent. of the whole, were cases
 “ of atrophied quarters or obliterated milk ducts which, from
 “ clinical observation, would presumably have no effect on
 “ the quality of the milk.

“ It must not be understood from the foregoing state-
 “ ment that there have been met with only 11 cows which
 “ could possibly have contributed harmful or tubercular-
 “ infected milk, for the reason that large numbers of tubercle
 “ bacilli may be found in the milk of Cows which show no
 “ clinical evidence of udder mischief. The present unsatis-
 “ factory state of the law on the subject unfortunately does

“ not admit of these latter animals being weeded out, as might
 “ be done if the Tuberculin test were made the subject of
 “ legislation, and its full value taken advantage of. With this
 “ latter object clauses were inserted in the Draft of the
 “ Kettering Improvement Bill with a view to securing the
 “ necessary powers, but were objected to by the Central
 “ Chamber of Agriculture on the ground that they constituted
 “ departures from the Model Clauses of the House, and con-
 “ sequently had to be withdrawn.

“ I submit, however, that justification for the insertion of
 “ clauses, dealing with the increased powers referred to, is to
 “ be found in the fact that tubercle bacilli have been dis-
 “ covered in from 11 to 18 per cent. of samples of public milk
 “ bought in at least one of our large provincial towns, a con-
 “ dition of affairs which would be impossible if suitable
 “ legislative measures were adopted.

“ In all cases in which any important derangement of the
 “ udder has been met with, steps have been at once taken to
 “ prohibit, pending recovery, any further use of milk from
 “ the affected animal, in which connection I am pleased to
 “ report that the owner has readily given his co-operation in
 “ all instances.”

OUNDLE URBAN.—“ These have been regularly inspected
 “ and found clean and in good order.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“ All Dairies and Cowsheds are well
 “ kept, and the trade is carried on under very favourable
 “ sanitary conditions.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“ Have been visited during the
 “ year at intervals.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“ The Dairies, Cowsheds,
 “ and Milkshops have all been visited and found satisfactory.

“ . . . In the Autumn there was a question raised as to the
 “ fitness of the milk supplied by the Sewage Farm Dairy for
 “ human food. There were several complaints from various
 “ consumers, and it was thought advisable to have an analysis
 “ of specimens made : the Analyst found the milk not only
 “ good and wholesome but even richer in nourishing con-
 “ stituents than average good milk. If consumers had really
 “ cause for complaint, it may be assumed that the defects
 “ occurred after the milk passed into other hands and were
 “ not attributable to its source.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“ Dairies and Cowsheds have been
 “ inspected and found fairly satisfactory.”

CRICK RURAL.—“ These have been inspected, and
 “ generally found in good order.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—“ Have been inspected.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“ These have been visited
 “ during the year, and a great improvement has been made.
 “ Some are quite modern and in a first-class condition, whilst
 “ the others have been greatly improved.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—“ Sources of Milk Supply
 “ are on the whole well kept.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“ The dairies and cowsheds
 “ have been periodically visited, and twice a year the Sanitary
 “ Inspector makes a detailed report on them to your Council.
 “ On the whole, there has been a most distinct improvement
 “ in these buildings since the passing of this Act, and in one
 “ of the worst cases, which has given the Council much
 “ concern, the old buildings have been entirely demolished
 “ and new ones erected.”

OUNCLE RURAL.—“ The Dairies and Cowsheds have
 “ been regularly inspected and found satisfactory.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—They are said to be regularly inspected, and that there is no complaint regarding them.

THRAPSTON RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that “the cowsheds have been frequently inspected and are “much improved.” In one instance, at Stanwick, new premises have been erected.

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that the “Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops have been “regularly inspected. Alterations and improvements have “been made at several of the farm premises, but there “remains much to be done.”

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (BAKEHOUSES).

The inspection and supervision of all workshops was put on a much better footing by means of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and, since that Act came into operation, it has been continuously evident that the great appreciation of the duties imposed upon them by it at the time has been shown by the Health Officials of the Districts within the County to have suffered no diminution. This year a fresh Table is introduced into the Annual Reports of all Medical Officers of Health, prepared by the Home Office for their guidance and convenience in preparing that part of their Annual Report which relates to factories, workshops, workplaces, and home work. It is stated that “it is not intended to supersede the “fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the Report, “but to provide for uniformity in the presentation of such “particulars as lend themselves to statistical treatment.” A summary of these Tables is given at the end of this Report, and the facts with regard to the supervision of factories and workshops in most of the Districts may be gathered from the following references :—

BRACKLEY BOROUGH.—“There are 15 workshops on the “Register, they have been inspected and found to comply

“with the conditions of the Act.” Bakehouses are reported as “all satisfactory.”

DAVENTRY BOROUGH.—“The Table required (for the first time) by the Secretary of State shows 16 workshops, 3 work places and 6 bakehouses ; all these have been inspected twice during the year by the Inspector of Nuisances and myself and no defects noted. I have received no list of outworkers during the year, and on enquiring I am informed that no work is given out.”

HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.—“I have visited all the factories in the town, and have found them, for the most part, satisfactory as regards their sanitary condition, but in some cases minor defects have been discovered which your Sanitary Officer will see are properly remedied.”

DESBOROUGH URBAN.—“The Factories, Workshops, and Bakehouses have been visited from time to time, and with the exception of occasionally finding the water-closet pans in a dirty condition and which has been promptly remedied on bringing the matter to the notice of those responsible, there has been nothing to complain of.”

FINEDON URBAN.—“There are 11 Factories and 10 Workshops in the town, and lists of 69 outworkers have been supplied. The Factories, Workshops, and Home-workers’ premises have been frequently inspected, and it has not been necessary to send in any written notices of complaints, and there have been no prosecutions under the Act. Any demands made by your Sanitary Inspector have been readily acceded to.”

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“Periodical inspection of factories, workshops, and work-places have been made during the year by your inspector and myself, and with the exception of the sanitary arrangements in some of the

“ factories, the requirements of the Act as regards ventilation,
 “ air space, general cleanliness, &c., have been, on the whole,
 “ very well carried out. In some of the factories the closet
 “ accommodation is not suitable, and in others, in my opinion,
 “ not sufficient ; but I have no doubt these defects will be
 “ removed when the water scheme is completed. I would,
 “ however, suggest that the Council lay down and enforce a
 “ standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommo-
 “ dation for persons employed in factories and workshops. I
 “ regret to have again to draw attention to the filthy condition
 “ in which a good many of the closets in the factories were
 “ found. In my last report I expressed the hope that the
 “ manufacturers would devise some means to keep them in a
 “ more cleanly state. No improvement has taken place, and
 “ I would suggest that a printed notice be posted up on every
 “ w.c. door, insisting on proper flushing and greater clean-
 “ liness on the part of those using them. All the factories
 “ and workshops are now provided with sufficient means of
 “ escape in case of fire. Bakehouses were all found clean and
 “ well kept, and the requirements of the Act in every respect
 “ faithfully carried out. There are no underground bake-
 “ houses.”

KETTERING URBAN—“ The alterations as to the further
 “ Inspection of Factories and Workshops have thrown addi-
 “ tional duties on your officers, and there have been
 “ difficulties in the way of their carrying out these duties, as
 “ far as the Workshops are concerned, as a considerable num-
 “ ber of the Manufacturers have neglected to send in lists of
 “ out-workers, which it is their duty to do. It appears that
 “ this should be made Compulsory by the Council. In con-
 “ nection with out-workers, work was found in one house
 “ only after Notification of Infectious Disease, and that
 “ immediately after notification. The patient was at once
 “ removed to the Hospital.”

OUNDLÉ URBAN.—“The workshops in the Schedule
“have been visited and found satisfactory as to lighting, air
“space, ventilation, and sanitation.”

RAUNDS URBAN.—“The Factories and Workshops in
“the District have been regularly inspected by Mr. Yorke
“and myself during the year, and with the exception of three
“cases requiring insufficient sanitary accommodation being
“remedied, one of which has been done and two now in
“hand, we found that all the requirements of the Factory
“and Workshops Act and the Public Health Act have been
“carried out as regards sanitation, sanitary conveniences, air-
“space, ventilation, and general cleanliness. It has not been
“found necessary to take any action to enforce the removal
“of any nuisance injurious to health. Section 22 of the
“Public Health Acts Amendment Act has been adopted in
“the District, but as yet no standard of sufficiency and suit-
“ability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in
“factories and workshops has been enforced, and no Lists of
“Outworkers for home work have been received. These lists
“should be received twice a year. In comparison, however,
“with former years the number of outworkers in this Dis-
“trict is very small, the great majority being employed inside
“the factories and workshops, and, so far as health is con-
“cerned, I consider it a great improvement on the old system
“of working in the dwelling-houses and small stuffy shops
“at home. In the Raunds District we have no fewer than 21
“factories, 7 workshops, and 5 bakeries coming under the
“Factory and Workshop Act.”

ROTHWELL URBAN.—“Bakehouses :—these on inspection
“were all found to be satisfactory. There are no underground
“bakeries in the town. . . . All the factories and as many
“of the workshops as could be found out have been inspected.
“In one or two the W.C.’s were not properly flushed, but
“these defects were remedied when pointed out, in the

“remainder the sanitary conditions were satisfactory. No
 “case of infectious disease was notified from any of the
 “houses of the out-workers.”

RUSHDEN URBAN.—“Factories and Workshops have
 “been inspected at intervals during the year. Outworkers to
 “the number of 468 have been visited in the town. A return
 “of 169 hand workers for Rushden firms have been sent to
 “the Sanitary Inspectors, in whose districts they reside,
 “twice during the year.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The requirements of
 “the Factory and Workshops Act dealing with the lists of
 “outworkers have been duly carried out. The workshops
 “have been visited, and where notices have been served for
 “improvements they have been efficiently and properly done.
 “According to the report on Factories, Workshops, Laun-
 “dries, &c., there were 300 inspections of Workshops and
 “Laundries, and 12 of workplaces and 10 of home-workers
 “premises. The defects found were 9 want of cleanliness
 “which were remedied. There were 3 want of ventilation,
 “also remedied : unsuitable sanitary accommodation, 4 of
 “which were remedied : matters notified to H.M. Inspector
 “of Factories, failure to affix abstract of the Factory and
 “Workshop Act, 6. Underground Bakehouses in use at the
 “end of 1904 were 3. Total number of workshops on Regis-
 “ter, 180.”

BRACKLEY RURAL.—The condition of the Bakehouses
 is recorded as being generally satisfactory. “I have visited
 “the workshops remaining on the original list, and found
 “that they fulfil the conditions. The district is purely agri-
 “cultural and rural, and such as there are only come within
 “the letter and not the spirit of the Factory Act of 1901.”

BRIXWORTH RURAL.—“Factories and Workshops are
 “kept up to the required standard, as far as cleanliness

“and sanitation are required. Large ventilators were put up
“at the Spratton Factory.”

DAVENTRY RURAL.—“I spent a good deal of time in
“visits and Inspections under the Factory and Workshop
“Act 1901, but in a purely Rural District these are not
“numerous. I found them as a whole satisfactory, and the
“various sections of the Act complied with.”

EASTON-ON-THE-HILL RURAL.—Bakehouses have been
inspected, “and regard has been paid to the Factory and
“Workshops Act.”

GRETTON RURAL.—“There is in the District one
“clothing Manufactory employing 27 hands. There are 6
“bakehouses, 6 ‘workplaces,’ and 4 slaughter-houses. All
“are regularly inspected and efficiently supervised.”

HARDINGSTONE RURAL.—“These hardly exist in this
“district. There are three small boot factories all in good
“order, and the few workshops (an average of about two to
“each village) are all in a clean state. . . The bakehouses
“are all clean and in good order—the provision as to regular
“white-washing is strictly insisted on. There are no under-
“ground bakehouses.”

MIDDLETON CHENEY RURAL.—There are no Factories
in the District, but the Bakehouses are said “to be in a very
“satisfactory condition.”

NORTHAMPTON RURAL.—“As regards the Factory Act
“there is little that calls for remark. We have only one
“small boot factory at Kislingbury, and there are a few
“workshops in the village of Harpole; they are visited
“periodically and are all in a favourable condition. The
“bakehouses are clean, and attention is paid that they are
“kept regularly whitewashed; there are no underground
“bakehouses.”

OUNDLE RURAL.—“The few workshops and bakehouses
 “in the District were regularly inspected and found satis-
 “factory. There is really very little that comes under this
 “Act.”

OXENDON RURAL.—“There are no Factories or Work-
 “shops other than Bakehouses in the District. . . Proper
 “inspections of the premises have been made, and sanitary
 “requirements have been carried out with reference to them.
 “The keeping of lists of Outworkers has been duly per-
 “formed, and notices duly received from other Councils as
 “required. There are seven Outworkers’ homes at Bray-
 “brooke, two at Farndon, and eight at Welford, and all have
 “been visited and inspected, and no insanitary conditions or
 “other matters found to which the Act applies.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—There are three local factories.
 “These factories are kept in a clean state, have no wet floors,
 “are free from effluvia arising from any drain, water closet,
 “&c., are not overcrowded, are properly ventilated, and have
 “suitable sanitary accommodation. No home work is given
 “out, and an Abstract of the Act is affixed where required by
 “section 133. Provision is also made for safety from fire.
 “. . . There is only one underground bakehouse in the dis-
 “trict, but it has been certified, as it complies with the
 “provisions of clause 4, section 101, of the Factory and
 “Workshop Act, as regards construction, light, ventilation,
 “and in all other respects.”

THRAPSTON RURAL.—“The number of Workshops is
 “largely on the decrease, for example, in Ringstead out of 70
 “workshops and work-places there are now only five ; and
 “in Woodford the number has decreased from 19 to 6. This
 “is owing to the shortage of work in the shoe trade and also
 “to the tendency to have work of this sort done in factories
 “instead of work-places attached to the homes of the people.

“ I have visited the Millinery and Dressmaking establishments
 “ and found them satisfactory. The Acts appear to have been
 “ complied with.” The Sanitary Inspector reports that there
 is no overcrowding and that the places are fairly clean. He
 also reports that the Bakehouses are in a fair condition.

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“ In compliance with the require-
 “ ments of the Factory and Workshop Act 1901, I have
 “ systematically visited various Workshops and Workplaces
 “ in the district and have not found any defects requiring
 “ action. . . . Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amend-
 “ ment Act 1890, which deals with the provision of sufficient
 “ sanitary conveniences in Factories, has not been adopted by
 “ the District Council.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector
 reports as follows :—“ *Home Work.*—Again much difficulty
 “ was experienced in getting some of the manufacturers to
 “ forward their lists of out-workers. They should be for-
 “ warded on or before the first day of February and the 1st
 “ day of August in each year. Proceedings were taken against
 “ F. Shelton, shoe manufacturer, Wollaston, and H. Corby,
 “ shoe agent, Bozeat, and both were fined for failing to send
 “ in their list. The total number employed as out-workers
 “ throughout the district is 1,167, viz., 912 men and 255
 “ women. In 1903, 863 men and 421 women were employed.
 “ In 1902, the number of out-workers employed were 930
 “ men and 520 women. These figures show that only about
 “ half the number of women are employed in the shoe
 “ trade as against two years ago. There is also a reduction in
 “ the number of men, many of whom have work from several
 “ different firms. There has been no complaint for
 “ general cleanliness or overcrowding in any of the Work-
 “ shops or Factories, and the conditions under which home
 “ work is done is still improving. The workers always
 “ readily comply with any request I bring before them as to

“lime-washing, fixing abstract, etc., etc. Bakehouses have
 “been visited and inspected, and, with three exceptions, were
 “well kept and clean. H.M. Inspector of Factories called
 “my attention to one at Irchester, and the other defaulters
 “resided at Mears Ashby and Isham. They were attended to
 “at once.”

FOOD INSPECTION.

A certain amount, but not a large one, of unsound food is usually seized annually in certain Districts of the County, and the year 1904 is represented by about the average quantity and kind. The inspection of food exposed for sale or intended for human consumption is referred to, however, in only a few of the Districts, and the following references are mainly in respect of seizures :—

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“A fishmonger reported
 “to me that a quantity of fish he had received in the usual
 “way was, in his opinion, unfit for food. I at once com-
 “municated with your inspector, who had no hesitation in
 “condemning and destroying it.”

KETTERING URBAN.—The Sanitary Inspector reports that “five boxes of mackerel being found unfit for food, were
 “condemned and destroyed.”

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN.—“The Markets have been
 “visited each Market day, and no unsound or diseased food
 “was discovered.”

POTTERSPURY RURAL.—“No case under this heading
 “was reported during the past year.”

TOWCESTER RURAL.—“There was one prosecution
 “under the Public Health Act of 1875, where a quantity of
 “unsound meat supposed to be intended for sale as human
 “food was seized and condemned. No conviction followed

“but the Magistrates expressed an opinion that it was a
“proper case to bring forward.”

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL.—The Sanitary Inspector reports, “In October last, I seized a quantity of fish exposed
“for sale in a shop at Irchester, which was condemned and
“afterwards destroyed. No proceedings were instituted
“against the offender.”

CEMETERIES.

The only record under this heading is from the Brixworth Rural District, to the effect that “a new Burial Ground
“has been found for Spratton, and will be opened next
“week.”

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are but few of these in the County ; but the one tan-yard in the Borough of Brackley is reported as being in a satisfactory condition, and the Fellmongering business in the Hardingstone Rural District has already been referred to under the heading of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. From the latter district, however, it is also reported that “one
“license for horse-slaughtering has been granted, at a considerable distance from any dwelling.”

CHARLES E. PAGET,

County Medical Officer of Health.

County Hall, Northampton,

April 20th, 1905.

LIST OF DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH FOR 1905.

DISTRICT.		MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.		RESIDENCE.
Urban :—				
Brackley				
(Borough)	...	J. S. Fenton, M.D., D.P.H.	...	Brackley
Daventry				
(Borough)	...	C. E. Oldacres, M.R.C.S.	...	Daventry
Higham Ferrers				
(Borough)	...	J. Crew, M.R.C.S., J.P.	...	Higham Ferrers
Desborough	...	H. Gibbons, M.D.	...	Desborough
Finedon	...	H. Burland, M.R.C.S.		Finedon
Irthlingborough	...	W. Robb, M.B.	...	Irthlingborough
Kettering	...	J. W. Dryland, M.R.C.S., J.P....		Kettering
Oundle	...	B. R. Turner, M.B.	...	Oundle
Raunds	...	W. Mackenzie, L.R.C.P.	...	Raunds
Rothwell	...	J. More, M.D.	...	Rothwell
Rushden	...	F. H. Morris, M.D.	...	Wellingborough
Wellingborough	...	W. W. Clark, M.D. J.P.	...	Wellingborough
Rural :—				
Brackley	...	G. N. Stathers, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.		Brackley
Brixworth	...	E. M. Knott, M.R.C.S.	...	Brixworth
Crick	...	G. Wilson, M.D., D.P.H.	...	Warwick
Daventry	...	A. R. Darley, M.D.	...	West Haddon
Easton-on-the-Hill		T. P. Greenwood, M.R.C.S.	...	Stamford
Gretton	...	J. E. O'Connor, M.B., D.P.H....		Kirby Muxloe, Leicester
Hardingstone	...	G. H. Percival, M.B.	...	Northampton
Kettering	...	J. W. Dryland, M.R.C.S., J.P....		Kettering
Middleton Cheney		J. I. Johnson, L.R.C.P.	...	Sulgrave, Banbury
Northampton	...	G. H. Percival, M.B.	...	Northampton
Oundle	...	C. N. Elliott, M.B.	...	Oundle
Oxendon	...	T. A. Durrant, M.R.C.S.	...	Market Harborough
Potterspury	...	T. S. Maguire, M.D.	...	Stony Stratford
Thrapston	...	C. N. Elliott, M.B.	...	Oundle
Towcester	...	C. Simpson, M.B.	...	Towcester
Wellingborough	...	F. H. Morris, M.D.	...	Wellingborough

SUMMARY OF REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
Brackley Borough.	<p>(a) Fairly low general mortality.</p> <p>(b) Small zymotic sickness rate.</p> <p>(c) Extension of cottage property, and some improvement in old property effected; but some cottages should be demolished altogether.</p>
Daventry Borough.	<p>(a) Rather high general, but fair infantile, mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) Public water supply now complete.</p>
Higham Ferrers Borough.	<p>(a) Low general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of notifiable zymotic sickness, but considerable prevalence of whooping-cough.</p> <p>(c) Need of apparatus for the disinfection of infected clothing.</p> <p>(d) Public water supply not completed, but in progress.</p>
Desborough Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Prevalence of Scarlet Fever.</p> <p>(c) Shortage of Public Water Supply.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
Finedon Urban.	<p>(d) House connections with sewers nearly completed, and ventilation of sewers improved.</p> <p>(e) Some trouble in regulating pig-keeping.</p>
Irthlingborough Urban.	<p>(a) Fair general, but excessive infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Serious outbreak of Enteric Fever due to the drinking of water contaminated by sewage.</p> <p>(c) Completion of scheme of Public Water Supply.</p> <p>(a) Low general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Epidemics of Rôtheln and Scarlet Fever.</p> <p>(c) Isolation Hospital question discussed and postponed.</p> <p>(d) Completion of Sewerage Scheme, and approaching completion of Public Water Supply Scheme.</p>
Kettering Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but rather high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) High phthisis mortality.</p> <p>(c) Scarlet - fever prevalent throughout the year, as well as Measles.</p> <p>(d) Joint Isolation Hospital of great service, and much appreciated.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	<p>(e) Good progress made in connection with new Reservoir.</p> <p>(f) Improvement at Sewage Works carried out.</p> <p>(g) Refuse Destructor now in use.</p>
Oundle Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of notifiable zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) Desirability of Urban Council combining with Rural Council for use of the latter's Isolation Hospital.</p>
Raunds Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but rather high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) Pollution of Brook in town abated.</p> <p>(d) Sinking of well for a Public Water Supply proceeding.</p> <p>(e) Further laying out of land at Sewage Farm in hand.</p>
Rothwell Urban.	<p>(a) Low general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) Public water supply has proved quite satisfactory.</p> <p>(d) Improvement suggested in regard to scavenging.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
Rushden Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but rather high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Large prevalence of Scarlet-fever of a mild type.</p> <p>(c) Public Water Supply not completed, but in progress.</p> <p>(d) Several privies converted to water-carriage system.</p>
Wellingborough Urban.	<p>(a) Low general, but high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Comparatively small amount of zymotic sickness, with the exception of Erysipelas.</p> <p>(c) Slaughterhouses under better control, but Public Slaughterhouse not yet recommended.</p> <p>(d) Improved methods of disinfection.</p>
Brackley Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) Question of an Isolation Hospital not yet settled.</p> <p>(d) Water supply from shallow wells, but absence of cases of water-borne disease.</p> <p>(e) New sewers at Croughton and Kings Sutton.</p>
Brixworth Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	<p>(b) Considerable prevalence of Scarlet Fever, and epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough in several villages.</p> <p>(c) Want of cottage accommodation.</p> <p>(d) Want of Isolation Hospital, and Disinfecting Apparatus.</p>
Crick Rural.	<p>(a) High general, but low infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Freedom from zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) No works of a public nature, and only one new house.</p>
Daventry Rural.	<p>(a) Low general, and fairly low infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Several outbreaks of Measles and Whooping Cough.</p> <p>(c) Long Buckby Water Supply Scheme nearly completed, but that for Badby still under consideration.</p> <p>(d) Filter-bed for sewage at Badby put in; but schemes for preventing sewage-pollution at Weedon and Flore not yet approved.</p>
Easton-on-the-Hill Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of notifiable zymotic sickness.</p> <p>(c) With falling population, there is adequate house accommodation; but there is also no</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	supervision over the erection of new houses.
Gretton Rural.	<p>(a) High general, but low infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) No notifiable zymotic sickness, with the exception of a few cases of Scarlet Fever.</p> <p>(c) Some drainage work done at Gretton.</p>
Hardingstone Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Large prevalence of Scarlet-fever in certain villages.</p> <p>(c) Severe epidemics of Measles at Wootton and Quinton.</p> <p>(d) Water supply for Denton completed, for Brafield in hand.</p> <p>(e) Sewage scheme for Yardley Hastings completed, and a septic tank at Cogenhoe.</p>
Kettering Rural.	<p>(a) Fair general, but high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Comparatively small amount of zymotic sickness, but an outbreak of Diphtheria at Pytchley.</p> <p>(c) Great utility of the Isolation Hospital in checking the spread of zymotic diseases in villages.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	<p>(d) Considerable shortness of water in several localities.</p> <p>(e) Considerable additions to schemes for sewage disposal.</p>
Middleton Cheney Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) No Isolation Hospital or means for disinfecting clothing.</p> <p>(c) Few cases of Scarlet Fever at Chipping Warden, and an epidemic of Whooping Cough in Upper and Lower Boddington.</p> <p>(d) No systematic sewage disposal systems.</p>
Northampton Rural.	<p>(a) High general, but fairly low infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Large prevalence of Scarlet-fever at Dallington, Harpole, and Bugbrooke.</p> <p>(c) Need of an Isolation Hospital to check outbreaks of infectious disease.</p> <p>(d) Septic tank put in at Bugbrooke; Harpole sewage under consideration.</p> <p>(e) Water Supply Scheme for Duston now under consideration.</p>
Oundle Rural.	<p>(a) High general, but low infantile, mortality.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	<p>(b) Considerable prevalence of Scarlet-fever.</p> <p>(c) Pollution of Barnwell Brook.</p> <p>(d) Completion of Isolation Hospital, and provision of Disinfecting Apparatus.</p>
Oxendon Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of notifiable zymotic sickness; but outbreak of Whooping-cough at Braybrooke, and German Measles at Oxendon.</p> <p>(c) Want of Isolation Hospital, and Disinfecting Apparatus.</p> <p>(d) Want of Public Water Supply at Braybrooke.</p> <p>(e) Settling-tanks at Welford completed.</p> <p>(f) Appointment of a Veterinary Inspector of Meat and Milk recommended.</p>
Potterspury Rural.	<p>(a) High general, but fair infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Prevalence of Scarlet Fever of mild type.</p> <p>(c) No advance in the provision of Public Water Supplies.</p> <p>(d) Increase of pail-closets in certain parts of the district.</p>
Thrapston Rural.	<p>(a) Rather high general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of zymotic sickness.</p>

NAME OF DISTRICT.	PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.
	(c) Need of a Public Water Supply to Thrapston; the Brigstock scheme is now completed.
	(d) Sewage disposal scheme at Ringstead completed, but house connections not yet made with sewers; scheme required for Woodford; main sewers at Stanwick nearly completed.
Towcester Rural.	<p>(a) High general and infantile mortalities.</p> <p>(b) Small amount of notifiable zymotic sickness, though Measles and Influenza prevailed.</p> <p>(c) Disinfecting Apparatus has proved satisfactory.</p> <p>(d) Question of water supply for Lichborough still in abeyance.</p>
Wellingborough Rural.	<p>(a) Fair general, but high infantile, mortality.</p> <p>(b) Considerable prevalence of Scarlet-fever.</p> <p>(c) Sewage disposal scheme at Irchester completed, at Isham in hand, and under consideration for Mears Ashby and Wilby.</p> <p>(d) Water supply for Wilby in hand; unsatisfactory condition of supply at Irchester.</p>

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1904.

Table I.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.	Population estimated to middle of 1904.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the Districts.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the Districts.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the Districts.	Deaths of Resi- dents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the Districts.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the Districts.		Area of Districts in Acres.	At Census of 1901.				
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*		Number.	Rate.*	Total Population at all Ages	No. of inhabited Houses.	Average No. of Persons per House.
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*											
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.		
URBAN:—																		
BRACKLEY (BOROUGH) ...	2,467	53	21·4	5	94·3	43	17·4	16	12		31	12·5	3,489	2,467	548	4·5		
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH) ...	3,780	75	19·8	7	93·3	69	18·2	19	14	5	60	15·8	3,633	3,780	869	4·3		
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH)...	2,540	61	24·0	4	65·5	22	8·6			2	24	9·4	1,945	2,540	555	4·5		
DESBOROUGH ...	3,835	106	27·6	13	122·6	48	12·5				48	12·5	2,400	3,573	748	4·7		
FINEDON ...	4,214	113	26·8	21	185·8	56	13·2				56	13·2	3,661	4,129	853	4·8		
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	4,664	137	29·3	11	80·2	56	12·0			1	57	12·2	3,722	4,314	896	4·8		
KETTERING ...	30,000	839	27·9	100	119·1	374	12·4	67	30	5	349	11·6	2,814	28,653	5,659	5·0		
OUNDLE ...	2,404	37	15·3	5	135·1	41	17·0	13	10	1	32	13·3	2,228	2,404	512	4·7		
RAUNDS ...	4,376	109	24·9	13	119·2	47	10·7			4	51	11·6	4,460	3,811	832	4·5		
ROTHWELL ...	4,940	123	24·8	10	81·3	54	10·9	3		1	55	11·1	3,638	4,193	902	4·6		
RUSHDEN ...	13,713	387	28·2	46	118·8	159	11·5			3	162	11·8	3,777	12,453	2,492	5·0		
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	20,180	482	23·8	61	126·5	250	12·3	54	25	9	234	11·5	4,265	18,412	3,873	4·7		
Totals and Means for Combined URBAN DISTRICTS ...	97,113	2,522	25·96	296	117·36	1,219	12·55	172					40,032	90,729	18,739	4·8		
RURAL:—																		
BRACKLEY ...	7,181	157	21·8	22	140·1	103	14·3				103	14·3	42,440	7,182	1,818	3·9		
BRIXWORTH ...	11,820	271	22·9	34	125·4	191	16·1	14	8	4	187	15·8	63,647	11,829	2,876	4·1		
CRICK ...	2,280	53	23·2	3	56·6	39	17·1			4	43	18·8	18,547	2,284	601	3·8		
DAVENTRY ...	13,425	339	25·2	30	88·4	160	11·9			2	162	12·0	60,877	13,425	3,275	4·0		
EASTON-ON-THE-HILL ...	1,462	31	21·2	4	129·0	19	12·9			8	27	18·4	6,341	1,462	353	4·1		
GRETTON ...	1,525	34	22·2	1	29·4	21	13·7			4	25	16·3	12,310	1,563	372	4·2		
HARDINGSTONE ...	7,846	162	20·6	24	148·1	119	15·1	13	1	4	122	15·5	32,542	7,846	1,889	4·1		
KETTERING ..	12,500	309	24·7	44	142·3	154	12·3			18	172	13·7	49,337	11,674	2,623	4·4		
MIDDLETON CHENEY ...	2,414	70	28·9	11	157·1	40	16·5				40	16·5	13,888	2,414	626	3·8		
NORTHAMPTON ...	6,360	144	26·9	13	90·2	169	26·4	90	88		81	15·1	16,228	6,420	1,290	4·2		
OUNDLE ...	6,388	145	22·6	10	68·9	90	14·0			11	101	15·8	58,677	6,859	1,727	3·9		
OXENDON ..	4,202	79	18·8	12	151·8	68	16·1			11	79	18·8	34,491	4,202	1,084	3·8		
POTTERS PURY ...	5,207	135	25·9	12	88·8	82	15·7	10		2	84	16·1	19,914	5,372	1,282	4·1		
THRAPSTON ...	10,206	252	24·6	28	111·1	151	14·7	14	3	3	151	14·7	36,836	10,348	2,453	4·2		
TOWCESTER ...	10,389	226	21·7	26	115·0	165	15·8	7		3	168	16·1	42,457	10,720	2,633	4·0		
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	13,556	336	24·7	44	130·9	174	12·8			6	180	13·2	33,115	13,156	3,033	4·3		
Totals and Means for Combined RURAL DISTRICTS ..	116,761	2,743	23·49	318	115·93	1,745	14·94	148					541,647	116,756	27,935	4·1		
Totals and Means for ADMINIS- TRATIVE COUNTY ...	213,874	5,265	24·61	614	116·61	2,964	13·85	320	133		2,931	13·70	581,679	207,485	46,674	4·4		

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

† Berry Wood Asylum population excluded for purposes of this calculation.

‡ Deaths in Berry Wood Asylum situate in Northampton Rural District, and in Northampton County Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital situate in Brixworth Rural District, of persons not belonging to the Administrative County.

NOTE—The deaths included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the Districts. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10, and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of this Table are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses, and lunatic asylums.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Table II.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS.	Deaths at							Aged under 5 or over 5.	Deaths from																																
	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up-wards		Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup.	Croup.	Fever.			Epidemic Influenza.	Cholera.	Plague.	Diarrhoea.	Enteritis.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Other Septic Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Cancer, Malignant Disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver.	Venereal Diseases.	Premature Birth.	Diseases & Accidents of Parturition.	Heart Diseases.	Accidents.	Suicides.	All other Causes.	All Causes.
															Typhus.	Enteric.	Other continued.																								
BRACKLEY (BOROUGH) ...	31	5	1	2	2	8	13	Under 5 5 upwds.														1				2	1 1	3		1				1	2	1		4 13	6 25		
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH) ...	60	7	1	4	2	17	29	Under 5 5 upwds.									1 6				2					4		2	2	2		3	1	2	3		9	1	1	2 19	8 52
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH)	24	4	4		1	6	9	Under 5 5 upwds.				2														1			2					1		3		1	3 11	8 16	
DESBOROUGH ...	48	13	10	6	2	5	12	Under 5 5 upwds.			2 1					1					1				1	4	2 1	2		5		1			3		2		10 12	23 25	
FINEDON ...	56	21	7	2	3	10	13	Under 5 5 upwds.				4				1 3					2 1					2	1 1	1	2 1	1			1		2		5	2		15 11	28 28
IRTHLINGBOROUGH	57	11	11	5	1	12	17	Under 5 5 upwds.			1 3					1										5	4	2	3 1	2 1		1 1			3		2	1	4	7 15	22 35
KETTERING ...	349	99	39	13	25	103	70	Under 5 5 upwds.		9	2	4 1	4 2			3					15	5		1		39	5 8	14	10 14	15 12	2				24	1	34	4 4		41 76	138 211
OUNDLE ...	32	5		1	1	10	15	Under 5 5 upwds.														1				6	1	2	1			1		2		5	1		1 10	5 27	
RAUNDS ...	51	13	2	4	1	19	12	Under 5 5 upwds.								1					2					5	4	4	3 3	2 1				2		4		1	2 17	15 36	
ROTHWELL ...	55	10	3		2	19	21	Under 5 5 upwds.										2								2		5	4	1				1		6	1 2		10 21	13 42	
RUSHDEN ...	162	46	26	9	12	39	30	Under 5 5 upwds.		1	3 3	7	1					1			6	8		1		13	4 10	14	9 4	2					10	2	15	3 1	3	17 24	72 90
WELLINGBOROUGH	234	58	10	9	9	71	77	Under 5 5 upwds.				2 1	1			1					13 1	9	1	1		23	4	18	5 11	5 7					8		23	5		22 73	68 166
TOTALS ...	1,159	292	114	55	61	319	318	Under 5 5 upwds.		10	8 7	19 2	5 3			1 10		1 9			41 2	23	2	1 2	1	106	25 22	67	35 40	34 23	3	1 6	2	2	59	4	110	9 18	10	134 302	406 753

NOTE.—So far as the information is obtainable, all deaths of “Residents” occurring in public institutions, either within or without the districts, including Berry Wood Asylum, are included in this table, and deaths of “Non-Residents” occurring in public institutions in the districts are excluded.
See Note on Table I. as to meaning of “Residents” and “Non-Residents.”

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Table II.

RURAL SANITARY DISTRICTS.	All Ages	Deaths at							Aged under 5 or over 5.	Deaths from																																	
		Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Small Pox.		Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Croup.	Fever.			Epidemic Influenza.	Cholera.	Plague.	Diarrhoea.	Enteritis.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Other Septic Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Cancer, Malignant Disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver.	Venereal Diseases.	Premature Birth.	Diseases & Accidents of Parturition.	Heart Diseases.	Accidents.	Suicides.	All other Causes.	All Causes.		
															Typhus.	Enteric.	Other continued.																										
BRACKLEY	103	22	5	3	3	20	50	Under 5 upwds.		2	1										1	3					5	1	5	3	2				1		4		11	1		10	27
BRIXWORTH	187	34	14	4	6	48	81	Under 5 upwds.		6	3	1	2					3			1	7	1		1	17	1	3	6	4	7	3	1	1		4		2	31	3	2	10	48
CRICK	43	3			2	15	23	Under 5 upwds.																		2	1	7	2	1							5		1	21	2	3	
DAVENTRY	162	30	6	8	2	43	73	Under 5 upwds.			2	5	1	1				1			1	1	1		6	3	13	4	2	3	1			3	1	4		2	1	6	10	36	
EASTON-ON-THE-HILL	27	4	1	1		6	15	Under 5 upwds.																		1	1	1	1						1		4	1		4	5		
GRETTON	25	1				4	20	Under 5 upwds.														1																		13	1		
HARDINGSTONE	122	24	9	5	3	28	53	Under 5 upwds.		1	1			1							3	1	1	1		7	2	10	2	3	1		1		6		19	2	2	12	33		
KETTERING	172	45	8	4	9	48	58	Under 5 upwds.				2	1			1		1			2	2	3			10	4	5	6	4			2	10		25	3	1	24	53			
MIDDLETON CHENEY	40	11	1	1		15	12	Under 5 upwds.				1														1		1	2	3	1	1	1				6			7	12		
†NORTHAMPTON	81	13	8	4	3	26	27	Under 5 upwds.			2		1	1		2					1	2				1	4	2	7	3	3				2	1	5	2	2	6	21		
OUNDE	101	10	2	2	4	18	65	Under 5 upwds.			1			1				3							2	4		9	2	7	2			2			12	4		6	12		
OXENDON	79	12	3	2	1	20	41	Under 5 upwds.				2						3				1				3		9	1	2	2	1		1		1		12	1		6	15	
POTTERSPURY	84	12	6	4	9	22	31	Under 5 upwds.		2		4	1													9	1	7	1	5				3			9	4	1	8	18		
THRAPSTON	151	28	5	6	9	25	78	Under 5 upwds.						1							1	1				1	3	10	5	6				7		1	24	2	3	4	9	33	
TOWCESTER	168	26	9	3	6	46	78	Under 5 upwds.								2					2					10	1	3	9	4	3		1	1	3		1	27	1	2	23	35	
WELLINGBOROUGH	180	44	6	7	7	48	68	Under 5 upwds.		2	1	4	2			3		1			3	1	1	1		8	4	1	10	9	4	3			4		7	1	3	3	13	50	
TOTALS	1,725	319	83	54	64	432	773	Under 5 upwds.		11	7	19	5	5		8		1			13	19	7	1	4	1	97	12	1	43	40	4	2		1	51		8	12		150	402	
										3	7		6	1			13				1	4	7	2	4		23	111	96	36	4	3	20		5	222	38	20	592	1,323			

† Deaths in Berry Wood Asylum numbered 90, 25 of these being Non-Residents of the Administrative County.

NOTE.—So far as the information is obtainable, all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, either within or without the districts, including Berry Wood Asylum, are included in this table, and deaths of "Non-Residents" occurring in public institutions in the districts are excluded.

See Note on Table I. as to meaning of "Residents" and "Non-Residents."

Table IIa.

TABLE showing the deaths of persons belonging to the Administrative County of Northampton, which occurred in Berry Wood Asylum during the year 1904. These have been allocated on Tables II. to the several Districts to which they belonged, and are also included in the Nett deaths in column 12 of Table I.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths at							Deaths in Localities.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up-wards.	URBAN.														RURAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
								Brackley Borough.	Daventry Borough.	Higham Ferrers Boro'.	Desborough.	Finelton.	Irthlingborough.	Kettering.	Oundle.	Raunds.	Rothwell.	Rushden.	Wellingborough.	Brackley.	Brixworth.	Crick.	Daventry.	Easton-on-the-Hill.	Gretton.	Hardingstone.	Kettering.	Middleton Cheney.	Northampton.	Oundle.	Oxendon.	Potterspury.	Thrapston.	Towcester.	Wellingborough.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Enteric Fever	1					1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Table III.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS.	AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.							NUMBER AND CLASS OF CASES NOTIFIED.														NUMBER AND CLASS OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.													
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up-wards.	Small Pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.	Chicken Pox.	TOTALS.	Small Pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.	TOTALS.	
*BRACKLEY (BOROUGH) ...	10											3	5					2				10													
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH) ...	3					3						2						1				3													
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH).	8		2	3	2	1						1	7									8													
DESBOROUGH ...	43		10	26	5	2						1	35		7							43													
FINEDON ...	45		4	19	19	3							7		38							45													
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	183		45	106	20	12						1	176		6							183													
KETTERING ...	177	2	47	79	21	27	1			10	1	43	112		11							177			3		1	78		6					88
OUNDLE ...	4		1	2		1				1		1	2									4													
RAUNDS ...	11	1	5	1	2	2						4	6		1							11													
ROTHWELL ...	16	3	11	1		1						1	15									16													
RUSHDEN ...	183	7	32	99	19	21	5			6		21	151		5							183													
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	96		15	17	24	34	6			6		42	24		22			2				96						2		10					12
TOTALS ...	779	13	172	353	112	107	12			23	1	120	540		90			5				779			3		1	80		16					100

* Ages not given.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Table III.

RURAL SANITARY DISTRICTS.	AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.								NUMBER AND CLASS OF CASES NOTIFIED.														NUMBER AND CLASS OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.												
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up-wards.	Small Pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.	Chicken Pox.	TOTALS.	Small Pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.	TOTALS.	
BRACKLEY ...	25	1	3	14		2	5					6	19								25														
BRIXWORTH ..	151	5	37	63	15	28	3			11	3	29	101		6			1			151														
CRICK ...	1					1						1									1														
DAVENTRY ...	65	2	13	31	7	11	1			3		14	46		1			1			65														
EASTON-ON-THE-HILL ...	1			1									1								1														
GRETTON ...	8			5	2	1							8								8														
*HARDINGSTONE ...	90									1	7	9	71		1			1			90						57								57
KETTERING ...	56		14	20	5	16	1			12		10	26		4			4			56			11			16		4						31
+MIDDLETON CHENEY ..	5			1	2								5								5														
*NORTHAMPTON ...	103									3	1	6	83		9			1			103						*1								1
OUNDLE ...	47	1	13	22	5	5	1					5	42								47						1								1
OXENDON ...	8			4		4				2		3	3								8														
*POTTERS PURY ...	42									2		8	31		1						42														
THRAPSTON ...	16		1	8	2	1	4					4	10		2						16														
TOWCESTER ...	22		2	7	6	6	1			2		2	13		5						22														
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	179	2	34	86	28	27	2			6		30	128		13			2			179						‡1								1
TOTALS ...	819	11	117	262	72	102	18			42	11	127	587		42			10			819			11			76		4						91

* Ages not given.
† Ages of two cases not known.

* Hardingstone Hospital.
‡ Northampton Hospital.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

1.

DISTRICT.	Number of Inspections.				Number of Written Notices.			
	Factories (including Factory Laundries).	Workshops (including Workshop Laundries).	Workplaces.	Homeworker's Premises.	Factories (including Factory Laundries).	Workshops (including Workshop Laundries).	Workplaces.	Homeworker's Premises.
URBAN:—								
BRACKLEY (BOROUGH) ...		15						
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH) ...		32	6	12				
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH)...	2							
DESBOROUGH ...	22	10		40				
FINEDON ...	27	20		276				
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	20	24	10	26				
KETTERING ...	30	60				2		
OUNDLE ...		15						
RAUNDS ...	75	17		65	2	1		
ROTHWELL ...	11							
RUSHDEN ...	112	48	208	449				
WELLINGBOROUGH ...		300	12	10		8	4	
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS ...	299	541	236	878	2	11	4	
RURAL:—								
BRACKLEY ...		2						
BRIXWORTH ...	4	32		about 500				28
CRICK ...		46				*13		
DAVENTRY ...		6						
EASTON-ON-THE-HILL ...		28						
GRETTON ...	4	11	12					
HARDINGSTONE ...	3	55						
KETTERING ...	19							
MIDDLETON CHENEY ...								
NORTHAMPTON ...	12	100	1			57	1	
OUNDLE ...		52	12					
OXENDON ...				31				
POTTERS PURY ...	1							
THRAPSTON ...	4	35		10				
TOWCESTER ...		56		16				
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	30	32	30	97				
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS ..	77	455	55	654		70	1	28
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY ...	376	996	291	1,532	2	81	5	28

* Including formal notices to cleanse and limewash bakehouses.

The only prosecution in connection with the above, was as regards a Workshop in the Towcester Rural District.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts, including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8, of the Factory Act, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

The following Table shows the Districts in which certain defects were found:—

DISTRICT.	Want of Cleanliness.	Want of Ventilation.	Over-crowding.	Want of Drainage of Floors	Other Nuisances.
URBAN:—					
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH)				2	1
DESBOROUGH			1		6
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	3	1		1	
KETTERING	17		1		27
ROTHWELL	3				5
RUSHDEN	6				
WELLINGBOROUGH ..	9	3			
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS..	38	4	2	3	39
RURAL:—					
BRIXWORTH	28	1			
CRICK	*13				
GRETTON	1				2
OUNDLE				1	
THRAPSTON			3		
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	16				9
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS ...	58	1	3	1	11
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY ...	96	5	5	4	50

* These include formal notices to cleanse and limewash bakehouses.

All of the above, with one exception, were remedied, and in no case was any matter referred to H.M. Inspector, nor was there any prosecution.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT. 2.

*The following Table shows the only Districts which make reference to
Sanitary Accommodations :—*

DISTRICT.	Insufficient.	Unsuitable or defective	Not separate for Sexes.
URBAN :—			
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	2	3	
KETTERING ...		24	1
RAUNDS ...	3		
ROTHWELL ..		3	
WELLINGBOROUGH ...		3	1
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS ...	5	33	2
RURAL :—			
KETTERING ...		1	1
NORTHAMPTON ...	58		
WELLINGBOROUGH ..		5	
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS ...	58	6	1
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY ...	63	39	3

The whole of the above defects, with four exceptions, were remedied, and
two of these were in hand.

*The following Districts have not yet adopted Section 22 of the Public
Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 :—*

Finedon Urban	Middleton Cheney Rural
Oundle „	Oundle „
Rothwell „	Oxendon „
Brackley Rural	Potterspury „
Crick „	Thrapston „
Easton-on-the-Hill Rural	Towcester „
Gretton „	Wellingborough „

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

The following Table shows the Districts in which certain offences were discovered:—

DISTRICT.	OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.					
	Illegal occupa- tion of underground bakehouse (S. 101).	Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses. (SS. 97 to 100).	Failure as regards lists of outworkers (S. 107).	Giving out work to be done in premises which are		Other offences.
				unwholesome (S. 108).	infected (S. 110).	
URBAN:—						
DESBOROUGH ...					8	1
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...					1	
RUSHDEN ...		3				
WELLINGBOROUGH ...				1		
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS...		3		1	9	1
RURAL:—						
NORTHAMPTON ...				1		
WELLINGBOROUGH ...		3	2			1
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS...		3	2	1		1
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY ...		6	2	2	9	1

All of the above offences were discontinued, no case was referred to H.M. Inspector, and the only prosecutions which took place were in respect to “failure as regards lists of outworkers (S. 107)” in the Wellingborough Rural District.

MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTORS OF FÁCTORIES:—

DISTRICT	NUMBER.		
	Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133).	Action taken in matters re- ferred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5).	
		Notified by H.M. Inspector.	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors
URBAN:—			
WELLINGBOROUGH..	6	2	2
RURAL:—			
WELLINGBOROUGH..	*3		

* Remedied.

UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSES (S. 107):—

DISTRICT	NUMBER.			
	In use during 1903	Certificates granted		In use at the end of 1904.
		in 1903.	in 1904	
URBAN:—				
KETTERING	1	1		1
WELLINGBOROUGH..	3	1	2	3
RURAL:—				
POTTERSURY ...	1	1		1

The only underground bakehouse at Thrapston has now been done away with.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

4.

LISTS OF OUTWORKERS (S. 107):—

DISTRICT.	Number of lists received.		Number of Addresses.		Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108).		Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworker's premises.		Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110).		Total number of workshops on Register.
	Number of lists.	Number of outworkers.	Forwarded to other Authorities.	Received from other Authorities.	Wearing Apparel.	Other.	Wearing Apparel.	Other.	Wearing Apparel.	Other.	
URBAN:—											
BRACKLEY (BOROUGH) ...											15
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH) ...											25
HIGHAM FERRERS (BOROUGH)...											Not stated
DESBOROUGH ...	18	356		4			8		8		8
FINEDON ...	14	69		4							10
IRTHLINGBOROUGH ...	18	175	4		1	*	6		1		22
KETTERING ...	16	280		16							307
OUNDLE ...											15
RAUNDS ...											7
ROTHWELL ...	10	159		1							26
RUSHDEN ...	40	618	8		6		6				241
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	*28	*277	*4	*5	1						180
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS ...	144	1,934	16	30	8		20		9		856
RURAL:—											
BRACKLEY ...											2
BRIXWORTH ...	3	20		20							Nil
CRICK ...											23
DAVENTRY ...	7	72		1							6
EASTON-ON-THE-HILL ...											Not stated
GRETTON ...	1	28		2							7
HARDINGSTONE ...	10	92									Not stated
KETTERING ...	9	103		25							9
MIDDLETON CHENEY ...											Nil
NORTHAMPTON ...											Not stated
OUNDLE ...											26
OXENDON ..	4	31		31							13
POTTERSPURY ...											3
THRAPSTON ...	4	58		2					2		135
TOWCESTER ...	5	16									56
WELLINGBOROUGH ...	36	1,167	5	3			4		4		16
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS ..	79	1,587	5	84			4		6		296
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY ...	223	3,521	21	114	8		24		15		1,152

* For the Half-year.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

5.

The Tables for the following Districts give particulars showing the Important and other classes of Workshops in their respective areas; these are enumerated below.

DISTRICT.	NUMBER AND CLASS OF WORKSHOP.											
	Bakehouses.	Retail Bakehouse Workshops.	Curriers	Boot and Shoe Trade.	Clothing and Shoe Trades.	Dressmaking and Tailoring.	Tailoring.	Basket Maker.	Iron Works.	Bicycle Works.	Motor and Bicycle Works.	Miscellaneous.
URBAN :—												
DAVENTRY (BOROUGH)..	6											19
IRTHLINGBOROUGH	7			12		3						
KETTERING.....	28			192								87
RAUNDS..			2	3			1	1				
ROTHWELL	9			11								6
Combined URBAN DISTRICTS	50		2	218		3	1	1				112
RURAL :—												
CRICK	6											17
GRETTON	6											1
KETTERING.....					Number not stated.							
OXENDON		13										
POTTERS PURY									1	1	1	
Combined RURAL DISTRICTS	12	13							1	1	1	18
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY...	62	13	2	218		3	1	1	1	1	1	130

